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THE JOURNAL OF PARLIAMENTARY INFORMATION

EDITOR : Surendra Nath Mishra

The Journal of Parliamentary Information, a quarterly publication brought out by the Lok Sabha Secretariat, aims at the dissemination of authoritative information about the practices and procedures that are continuously being evolved in Indian and foreign Legislatures. The *Journal* also purports to serve as an authentic recorder of important parliamentary events and activities and provides a useful forum to members of Parliament and State Legislatures and other experts for the expression of their views and opinions, thereby contributing to the development and strengthening of parliamentary democracy in the country.

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EDITORIAL NOTE

The history and evolution of our parliamentary democracy, in some way or the other, has been inextricably linked with the Parliament House and its historic Central Hall.

The stately Parliament House, which stands out majestically in the very heart of the nation's capital, is home to the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha. The precincts of the magnificent Parliament House have statues and busts of stalwarts representing our rich and varied history. It is a humble tribute to their sacrifices by a grateful nation.

The high domed Central Hall of Parliament House has witnessed the ceremony transferring the sovereign power of the nation to the people of India. It was again in this Hall, our Constitution was debated, framed and adopted. In recent years, several momentous ceremonies of national importance have been held here. The Honourable President of India addresses the members of both the Houses of Parliament in this Hall, outlining the achievements and policies of the Government. Several visiting Heads of State and Government also address members of Parliament in the Central Hall. This Hall is also a beehive of activity during the period when Parliament is in Session as well as during other days with members interacting with one another on issues of national and international importance.

The Central Hall is also adorned with portraits of several leaders who have contributed immensely to the national cause.

Under an initiative taken by the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil, a Parliamentary Committee on Installation of Statues and Portraits of National Leaders in Parliament Complex, consisting of members from both the Houses, was constituted to study the matter. The subject was also discussed at other fora like the General Purposes Committee and the meetings of Leaders of Parties. Accordingly, 25 proposals for installation of statues and portraits in Parliament Complex were approved.

As per these decisions, at a function held in the Central Hall on 15 December 1995, the portrait of the former Prime Minister, Shri Morarji Desai was unveiled by the President of India, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma, who also addressed the distinguished gathering. The function was also addressed by the Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri K.R. Narayanan; the Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao; the former President of India and Chairperson of the Citizens' Committee for Morarji Desai's Centenary Celebrations, Shri R. Venkataraman; and the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil. The texts of the Addresses delivered by the dignitaries on the occasion are reproduced in this issue of the *Journal.*

At another function held on 20 December 1995, a portrait of Shri N.C. Chatterjee, an eminent parliamentarian of his times, was unveiled in the Central Hall by the Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri K.R. Narayanan. Besides the Vice-President, the distinguished gathering in the Central Hall was addressed by the Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao; the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil; and Shri Somnath Chatterjee, MP. We reproduce in this issue of the *Journal*, the texts of the Addresses delivered by the dignitaries on the occasion.

On 22 December 1995, the statue of Pandit Ravi Shankar Shukla was unveiled in the Entrance Hall to the Lok Sabha Lobby, Opposite Gate No. 4, of Parliament House by the President, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma, who also addressed the distinguished gathering in the Central Hall. The other dignitaries who addressed the gathering were the Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri K.R. Narayanan; the Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao; the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil; and Shri Dharni Dhar of the Pandit Ravi Shankar Smarak Samiti. We reproduce in this issue the texts of the Addresses delivered on the occasion.

On 12 December 1995, at a function held in the Central Hall of Parliament House, the President of India, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma conferred the first Outstanding Parliamentarian Award instituted by the Indian Parliamentary Group (IPG) on the former Prime Minister of India, Shri Chandra Shekhar, MP. The distinguished gathering in the Central Hall was addressed by the President, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma; the Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri K.R. Narayanan; the Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao, the former Prime Minister, Shri Chandra Shekhar, MP; and the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil. The texts of the Addresses delivered by the dignitaries on the occasion also find place in the *Journal*.

Besides, this issue of the *Journal* carries our other regular Features, *viz.* Parliamentary Events and Activities, Procedural Matters, Parliamentary and Constitutional Developments, Sessional Review and Recent Literature of Parliamentary Interest.

We have been constantly endeavouring to make this *Journal* more useful and informative. Needless to say, we would welcome suggestions from our readers for its further improvement. We would also welcome practice and problem-oriented non-partisan articles in the field of parliamentary procedures and institutions from members of Parliament and State Legislatures, scholars and others interested in the realm of parliamentary political science.

—Surendra Nath Mishra
Editor

ADDRESSES AT THE UNVEILING OF THE PORTRAIT OF SHRI MORARJI DESAI

A portrait of the former Prime Minister, Shri Morarji Desai was unveiled in the Central Hall of Parliament House on 15 December 1995 by the President of India, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma, who also addressed the distinguished gathering. The portrait has been painted by the noted artist Shri R.D. Parekh. The function was also addressed by the Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri K.R. Narayanan; the Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao; the former President of India and Chairperson of the Citizens' Committee for Morarji Desai's Centenary Celebrations, Shri R. Venkataraman; and the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil.

The texts of the Addresses delivered by the dignitaries on the occasion are reproduced below.

—Editor

ADDRESS BY THE SPEAKER, LOK SABHA, SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL

Revered Rashtrapatiji, Respected Upa-Rashtrapatiji, Respected Pradhan Mantriji, Respected former President of India, Shri Venkataramanji, Honourable Ministers, Honourable Members of Parliament, Honourable Members of the family of Shri Morarjibhai Desai, Honourable Members of the Diplomatic Corps, Ladies and Gentlemen:

On behalf of the members of Parliament and on my own behalf, while welcoming the guests, I thank the President for having agreed to unveil the portrait of Shri Morarjibhai Desai, the former Prime Minister of India and for having agreed to speak to the audience on this occasion; the Vice-President and the Prime Minister for having agreed to address this congregation and Shri Venkataramanji, the former President of India, for having agreed to address this gathering and for having organised the donation of the portrait.

We are grateful to the Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan and other associations which, I think, have constituted a Citizens' Committee for donating this portrait to the Parliament and we congratulate the artist for the good work he has done. This portrait, according to me, is one of the best portraits in this Hall.

Shri Morarjibhai Desai was a great son of India who fought for its Independence and contributed a great deal towards its achievement; was a very just and astute administrator whose skill in the art and science

of governance would always be remembered and to a great extent, emulated; was a very skillful parliamentarian who, in a few words, could reply to the debates or explain the complicated policies and matters. Nobody could take any real objection to his statements and conduct in the House. Nobody could really catch him on the wrong foot. He was always careful and right in the House.

He was a great politician who thought not of the immediate problems and issues alone but who thought in terms of longterm policies and great philosophies.

He was an exceptional human being who stuck to his principles without any regard to the losses and gains for him that would flow from his principled stand. He was a great disciple of Mahatma Gandhi who followed many of his principles in a manner which was exemplary. He believed in the principles of the *Gita*, Indian culture, philosophy and the almighty.

For his attitude towards life, towards problems of the society, the nation and the world, he was dear and near to and at the same time, he was not liked and befriended by many in the country and the world. But he did not change his attitudes, ways of thinking and doing things because of the likes and dislikes of others. That made him great and unique.

From his life, we can learn a great deal. His portrait would keep us, who visit the Central Hall, reminding about his thoughts, actions and personality and guide us to do our duties in the best possible manner.

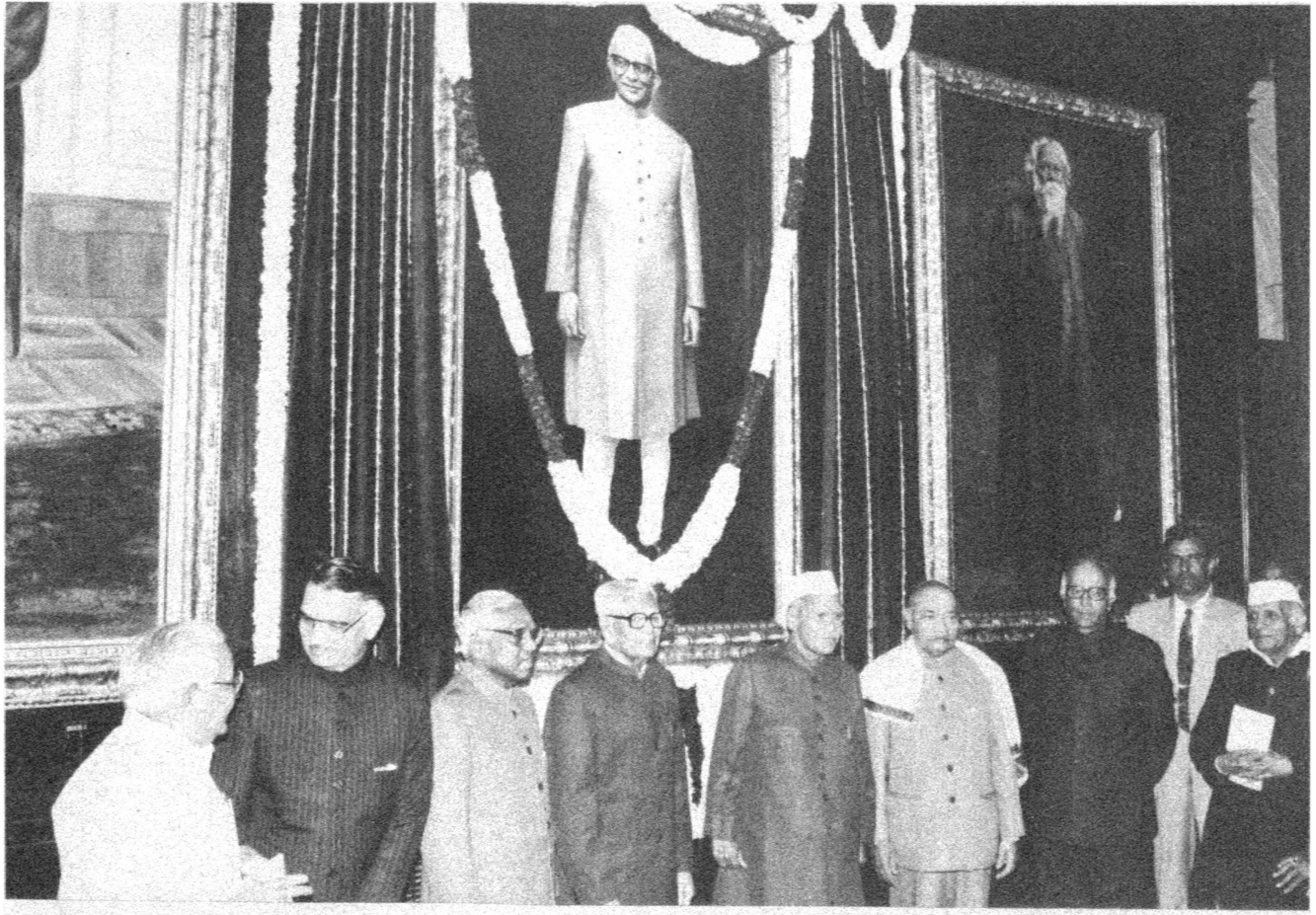
We would like to pay our homage to his memory and to follow his principles which were acceptable to all.

Thank you very much.

ADDRESS BY THE FORMER PRESIDENT OF INDIA, SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN

Respected President, Respected Vice-President, Respected Prime Minister, the Honourable Speaker, Members of the Cabinet, Members of Parliament, Excellencies and Friends:

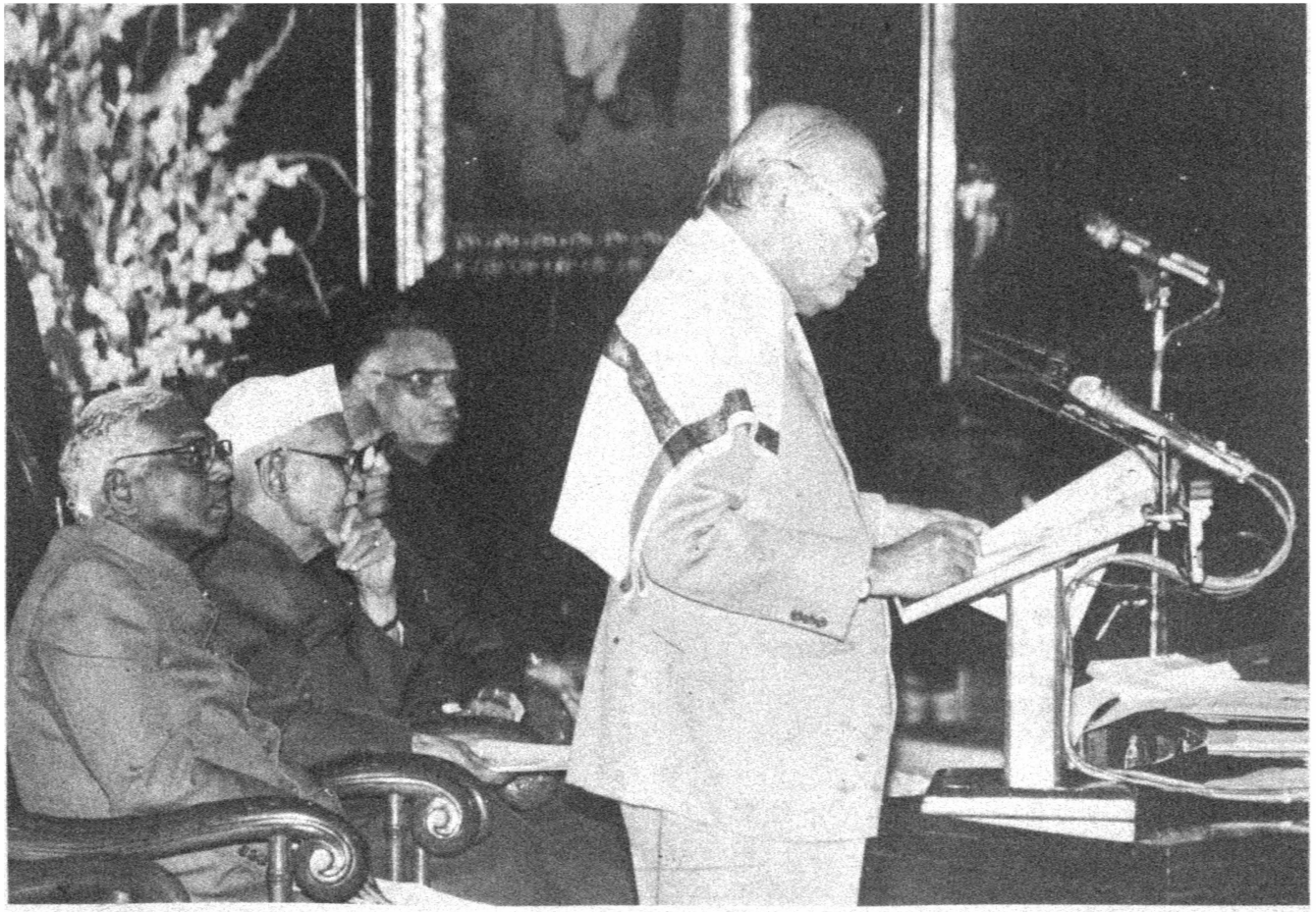
I deem it an honour as Chairperson of the Citizens' Committee for Morarjibhai Desai's Centenary Celebrations to present to this august House the portrait of an eminent statesman, Shri Morarji Desai. The Citizens' Committee has been sponsored by the Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Gandhi Smarak Nidhi and Gujarat Vidyapeeth. A patriot who sacrificed his lucrative and prestigious position as Deputy Collector, an undaunted freedom fighter who participated in all struggles for national liberation and exemplary Minister and later Chief Minister of the then State of Bombay, an outstanding Industries Minister and Finance Minister and



The dignitaries in the Central Hall after the unveiling of the portrait of Shri Morarji Desai

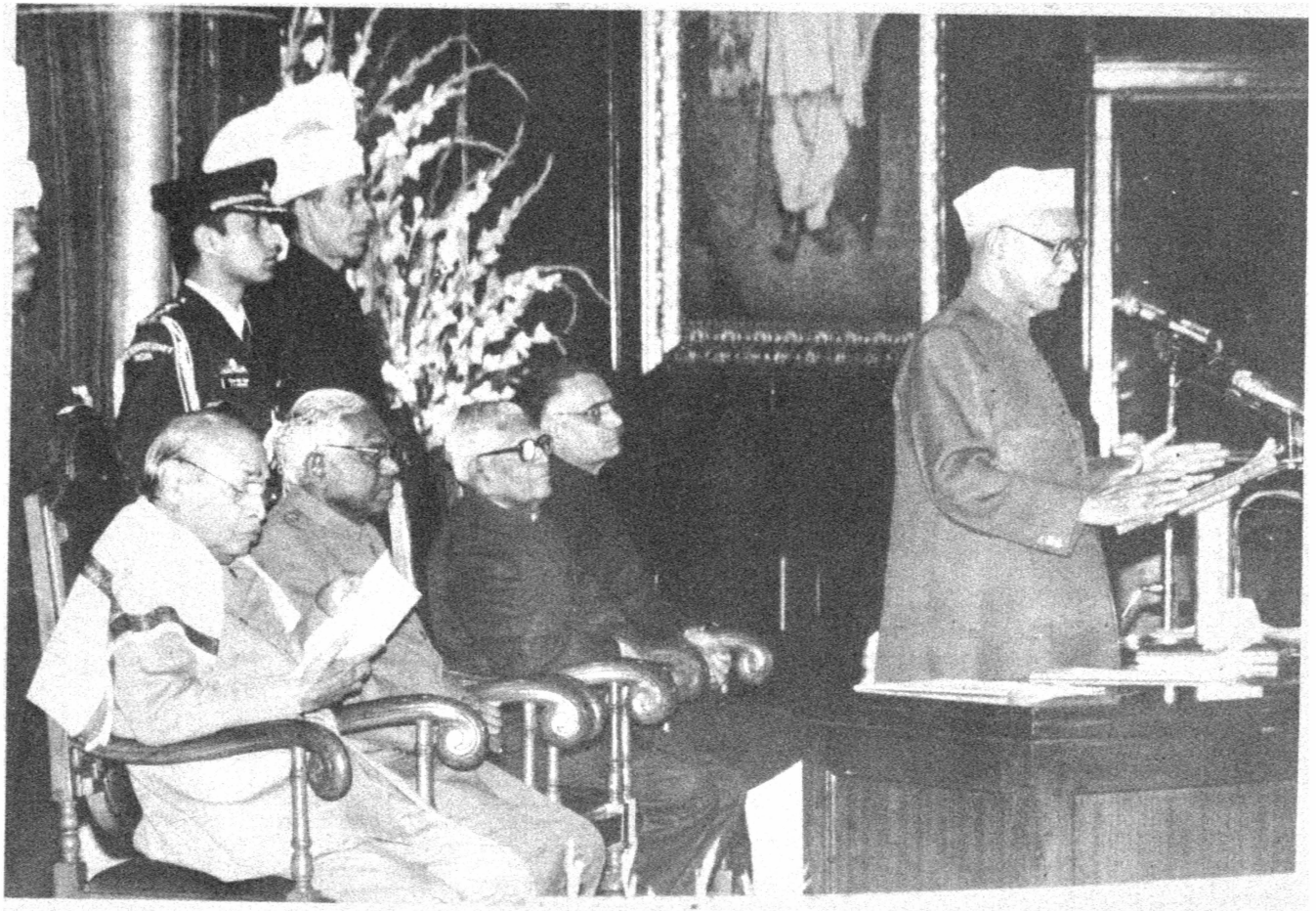
The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil addressing the gathering

The former President of India, Shri R. Venkataraman delivering his address



The Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao addressing the gathering

The Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha,
Shri K.R. Narayanan delivering his address



The President, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma addressing the distinguished gathering

later Deputy Prime Minister and Prime Minister of India, Morarji Desai's life was one of dedicated service to the nation. He was a Gandhian in thought, word and deed. When communal riots broke out in Ahmedabad in 1946, he ordered the police to ruthlessly put down violence irrespective of the religion to which the perpetrators belonged. He said that all persons, Hindus or Muslims, responsible for the riots should be subject to the same kind of law.

Morarji Desai was a true *Satyagrahi.* He got imprisonment violating the law openly, but he observed scrupulously the jail rules. On one occasion when an unauthorised visitor had managed to come to jail to meet Morarji, he refused to see him. In 1975 when President's rule was extended in Gujarat denying democratic elections, Morarji Desai was, like Gandhiji, one to resort to fast for holding elections in the State. The justness of the cause and the sincerity of Morarji Desai brought success to his efforts. Like Gandhiji, Morarji believed that even the noblest of ideals should not be achieved by wrongful means. This explains his criticism of the Goa action.

As Prime Minister, Morarji Desai maintained the highest standards of efficiency and integrity. His sympathies were always with the poor and the downtrodden. The Citizen's Committee believes that the portrait of such an eminent soul will inspire the future generation to emulate him. The portrait has been beautifully painted by the well known Maharashtra artist Shri R.D. Parekh. We now request the Honourable Speaker to accept the portrait of one of India's noblest sons, Shri Morarji Desai.

ADDRESS BY THE PRIME MINISTER, SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO

Revered Rashtrapatiji, Respected Upa-Rashtrapatiji, Shri Venkataramanji, Esteemed family members of Morarjibhai, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am very happy to be here today on the occasion of the unveiling of the portrait of Morarji Desai in the august Central Hall of Parliament. Morarjibhai was a distinguished freedom fighter and an ardent follower of Mahatma Gandhi. He was an able administrator and a committed nationalist who always stood by his principles and convictions. Morarjibhai was deeply concerned with the problems of the country. He was a thinker who always pondered over his actions and the likely fall-out.

He had joined Government service under the British rule, but the strong influence of the Independence movement on his mind impelled him to resign from the Government with a sense of remorse. He felt that he had ill-served his country by serving the foreign government for twelve years. He thought of ways of atonement. He decided that he would spend the rest of his life in the service of the country and would

not undertake any activity connected with earning. He resolved he would not do anything to serve his own interests in this world. This resolve and commitment to truth remained a guiding principle in his public life.

Morarjibhai had to face several hardships early in his life. He lost his father when he was barely 15 years, under tragic circumstances. In those formative years he inherited from him a sense of duty, religious faith and equanimity in all circumstances. This was a precious heritage which Morarjibhai cherished and followed throughout his life. The early struggles and a disciplined upbringing gave him the courage to stand up to any adversity for his principles.

His transformation from government service to political worker was indeed instructive. Morarjibhai had to pursue his studies on his own. He earned a number of scholarships which saw him through the college. He was attracted to the freedom movement and the Indian National Congress during his student days. He used to attend many of the public meetings held under the Home Rule Movement and listened to the speeches of Mrs. Annie Besant. After passing his intermediate examination he acted as a volunteer in the Annual Session of the Indian National Congress in 1915. The leaders of the freedom movement like Sir Pherozeshah Mehta, Lokmanya Tilak and Dr. Dadabhai Naoroji enthused him in those days. Yet his family circumstances compelled him to join the University Training Corps and then join the Provincial Civil Service. The Service did not satisfy him. As a Government officer, he went to see the march of Mahatma Gandhi and his 80 companions to Dandi on 12 March 1930. The enthusiasm of the people and vision of Mahatma Gandhi overwhelmed Morarji and he decided to resign from the Service. In his resignation letter he wrote that it was derogatory to one's dignity and self-respect to serve such a Government. Thus Morarjibhai, free from the shackles of Government service, joined the freedom movement as a member of the Indian National Congress.

Even in the Government service he used to read *Young India* and *Navjivan* regularly. He fully agreed with the reasoning put forward by Bapu and became his ardent admirer. He participated in the No Tax Campaign and as a *Satyagrahi* spent several years in jail. As a *Satyagrahi* even in jail he followed the path of truth and non-violence. He would refuse to read the newspapers which were smuggled in since it violated the jail rules. Morarjibhai soon came to occupy a special place in the Independence movement. He truly inculcated the ideals of Bapu and tried to strictly adhere to them in letter and spirit throughout his life.

All through his life he remained steadfast on his principles. He was never willing to compromise his principles and beliefs for expediency. Morarjibhai had an unshakeable faith in God. The experiences of his life strengthened his belief and he could bear the various difficulties cheerfully and peacefully because of his faith in God. In life he went

through many ups and downs. In service he incurred the displeasure of his superiors and in life was willing to stand up, even alone, for his principles. He was always forthright and straight and would never hesitate to speak the truth, even if it was bitter.

The Bhagvad Gita had a great influence on Morarjibhai. He even memorised the verses of the *Gita* while lodged in jail. He tried to inculcate the teachings into his life. The influence of his parents and the teachings of the *Gita* helped him to become equanimous and in some ways reflected the *Gita's* concept of *sthith pragya*. He was fearless in expressing his opinions and had an uncompromising belief in his ideals. People respected him for his commitment even if they differed from him in other respects.

Morarjibhai held several positions in the Government. He served as Minister of Revenue, Agriculture, Forests and Cooperative Departments in the Ministry of Balasaheb Kher. This was the first popular Ministry of the Bombay Province and there was great enthusiasm. His experience of revenue administration came in handy and he took several initiatives in improving the administration and providing relief to the people. Several irksome rules and bye-laws which affected the people in managing their land and the people living in the forest regions were changed by him. Legislation was introduced to give relief to the peasantry. His administrative abilities gave a new direction to the working of the Government. As the Chief Minister of Bombay, he initiated a number of measures to improve the police, separate Executive from the Judiciary, jail and revenue administration and helped Bombay become economically progressive.

Morarji Desai had great faith in Indian democracy and believed that the people should have the freedom to freely express their opinions. He felt that democracy alone is conducive to the progress of human society. He stood for unity of India and in his various capacities as Chief Minister of the Bombay State, as Union Minister for Commerce and Industry, as Union Finance Minister, as Deputy Prime Minister and finally as Prime Minister, he always worked towards strengthening it. His in-depth report on administrative reforms is a lasting contribution to understand our system of governance and provides insight into its improvement.

Morarjibhai is no longer with us. We had decided to celebrate his centenary in a befitting manner. I still vividly recall what he said on how his centenary should be celebrated. His reply reflected his patriotism and commitment to the country. He always kept the welfare of the people and the country before self. He replied that the centenary should be celebrated in a manner which would enhance the image of our country. Till his last day his love for the nation was supreme.

We miss his sagely presence. But I am happy that his portrait, in his centenary year, is being unveiled in the Central Hall of Parliament.

He would always be a source of inspiration for many people. His Gandhian approach and the principle of simple living and high thinking would always remain a shining example. Our humble tribute to him would inspire the people to follow the approach to life shown by him and the principles that were dear to him.

Thank you.

ADDRESS BY THE VICE-PRESIDENT OF INDIA AND CHAIRMAN, RAJYA SABHA, SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN

Respected Rashtrapatiji, Respected Shri Venkataramanji, Respected Prime Minister, Honourable Speaker, Members of the family of Shri Morarji Desai, Honourable Members of Parliament, Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have assembled here to pay homage to one of the most outstanding political leaders of our land. Shri Morarji Desai's life spanned almost the whole of this century. For seven decades of his long life he served the country, first as a dedicated soldier in the non-violent campaigns for Independence launched by Mahatma Gandhi and then as a major participant in the adventure of building a new democratic India. He rose to positions of the highest responsibility and became a byword for discipline, determination and steadfastness.

His life was full of events and even drama. He believed that he was but the plaything of a higher power. But he also believed in the doctrine of *purusha prayatna*, personal duty and effort. The enduring and the most eloquent tribute to him is his own work and worth rather than anything we may say about him.

Resigning from Government service in his early twenties, Shri Desai chose Gandhiji as his *guru* and plunged into the struggle for India's freedom. He not only courted imprisonment but got himself trained in the art of disciplining himself in Gandhian ways. Even while in "B" class prison he used to take food meant for "C" class political prisoners and thus established a tradition of sharing in the sufferings of his colleagues.

As Minister in the first Congress Government in the Bombay Province, Shri Desai proved his administrative and organisational ability and adherence to principles. Among his notable achievements during this period was the forming of the Home Guards for the first time in India to prevent the emergence of communal riots. The success of the Home Guards in Bombay persuaded the other States to emulate this example. So great was the impression that his qualities had made on the national leadership that after the first general election in free India he was chosen to head the Cabinet in the Bombay State. That was despite the fact that he himself had lost his seat in the election though the Congress party had won in the State. When critics contended that it was not a

good precedent for our nascent democracy, Prime Minister Nehru countered them by saying that Shri Desai was the victorious leader of a victorious party. Nehru reposed his trust in him because of his successful handling of intricate issues in the Bombay State. In 1956, he wrote to Shri Desai saying, 'How much I have admired your calm steadfastness of purpose in the face of attack and difficulty... Please remember that you have all our friendship and admiration'. Shri Desai had, indeed, a reputation for his firm grip on the reins of Government and for high integrity and uncompromising attachment to principles. It was inevitable that his administrative gifts and political grasp should be availed of at the Centre. Jawaharlal Nehru brought him to the Centre and entrusted him with challenging economic portfolios which enhanced his reputation for dynamic administration, clarity of vision and impartiality. Retiring under the Kamaraj Plan, he returned to office as Deputy Prime Minister with Shrimati Indira Gandhi. The circumstances under which he had to leave the Government was another landmark in his eventful career. When the first coalition of non-Congress parties came to power at the Centre, it seemed natural that the honour of heading the Government as Prime Minister should have gone to a person of Shri Morarji Desai's eminence and experience.

It was by no means, an easy responsibility. But he discharged this responsibility in the light of two guides he acknowledged—the *Gita* and Gandhiji. He proclaimed in so many words and demonstrated by his deeds that the basic policies of India were not up for change, whether in its economic philosophy or in its foreign policy, and above all, in its adherence to constitutional norms and imperatives. If anyone had imagined that India could be swayed from its basic policy of non-alignment they have been disabused of it. He showed that national self-respect was the bedrock of our policy and our concept of security. At the same time, he showed great flexibility in his approach and promoted cordial relations with the neighbouring countries. In fact, the Government of Pakistan acknowledged this contribution by conferring on him that country's highest civilian honour.

Shri Morarji Desai was that rare politician in a democracy who had little attraction or use for what is called popularity. Sometimes it looked as though he even relished the image of being stern and unbending and indifferent to popular acclaim. Yet his colleagues and fellow parliamentarians and officials knew that they could reason and argue with him. And the people of India knew that his sense of dour duty was informed by warm human sympathy. It was impossible for anyone to withhold admiration for a man who lived and acted by his own exacting code. He believed in the stoic rule that a man's happiness lay in doing his duty. Shri Morarji Desai has set high standards for us in public life. His portrait, unveiled today, will be a constant reminder of what the nation expects from us. He had said, "the role and responsibility of leadership must be to lead

to higher evolution of human nature and human relations" and to strive constantly for the uplift of society. I feel honoured to join in the tributes to the memory of this remarkable personality, this great son of India.

Thank you.

ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT OF INDIA, DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA*

Shri K.R. Narayanan, Vice-President of India, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao, Prime Minister of India, Shri R. Venkataraman, former President of India, Shri Shivraj V. Patil, Speaker of Lok Sabha, Members of the Council of Ministers, Members of Parliament, Shri Kanti Desai, Venerable Freedom Fighters, Ladies and Gentlemen:

It gives me immense pleasure to be here amidst you to unveil the portrait of the distinguished freedom fighter and former Prime Minister of India, Shri Morarjibhai Desai in the Central Hall of Parliament. I would like to compliment members of Parliament for their decision to put up the portrait of Shri Morarjibhai Desai and pay him my sincere tributes.

I had an opportunity to work with Morarjibhai. I found in him clarity of vision, tenacity of character and a strong willpower to act according to the dictates of his convictions. He was a symbol of assiduity and courage. Fearlessness and firmness were important attributes of his character. He had an abiding faith in truth, non-violence and democratic values which he imbibed from Bapu, Sardar Patel and Pt. Nehru.

Morarjibhai was initially a civil servant in the then British Government. However, inspired by a vision to see a free India, he resigned from Government service in 1930 on the call of Mahatma Gandhi. Later, he took part in the Non-Cooperation Movement and the Quit India Movement. He was also imprisoned several times.

In 1937, he became a Minister in the Provincial Government of Bombay. In 1952, he assumed the office of the Chief Minister of Bombay. Later on, he joined the Union Government wherein he displayed his efficiency and administrative acumen by successfully discharging the onerous duties of important Ministries such as Commerce, Industry and Finance. As the Prime Minister of the country, he made a positive impact on our democratic polity and public psyche.

The personality of Morarjibhai was neatly woven with the fine fibres of the progressive elements of our rich cultural heritage. The *Bhagvad Gita* and Bapu had an indelible influence on him. In the first volume of his autobiography, *The Story of My Life*, he has observed:

> I have always had deep faith in religion and in the *Gita* and the writings of Mahatma Gandhi strengthened my faith. I had

*Original delivered in Hindi

> always felt attracted to the ideals that Gandhiji professed, and now these ideals were firmly rooted in me.

Morarjibhai Desai continued to abide by these ideals throughout his life. He had extreme courage to stick to truth and preserve non-violence. He wore *Khadi* and vehemently opposed alcohol consumption and untouchability throughout his life. He was a supporter of *swadeshi.* Self-discipline, simplicity, fortitude and dedication to duties were inseparable parts of his life. His dynamism and assiduity were that of a determined youth. Pandit Nehru was a great admirer of this quality of his personality. In a letter to him on 28 February 1956, Pt. Nehru wrote:

> ...may I...say how much I have admired your calm steadfastness of purpose in the face of attack and difficulty... In the middle of this turmoil you have stood out without losing your temper or allowing yourself to be swept away.

This aspect was an important trait of Morarjibhai's personality which enabled him to provide a balanced leadership to the country in the capacity of Chief Minister, Union Minister and Prime Minister. He never ran away from owning responsibility entrusted to him. He was solely guided by national interests in taking decisions. He never hesitated in taking just and proper decisions while discharging his duties. Since he was very clear of his priorities, there was no question of drifting from that path.

Morarjibhai also worked in other walks of society. He remained the lifelong Chancellor of the Gujarat Vidyapeeth and in this capacity, he provided one of the biggest forums for studies of Gandhian ideologies. He was associated with the *Collected Works of Mahatma Gandhi,* whose one hundred volumes have so for been brought out. He was also associated with the Rural University, *Lok Bharti,* through which he enlightened the country with his constructive and useful ideas regarding rural development. He played a pivotal role in constructive social work through many of the trusts associated with Bapu. As the Chairman of the Somnath Temple Trust, he made an earnest appeal that I should dedicate the renovated temple to the country and in deference to his wishes, I honoured his desire.

Morarjibhai had a good and deep understanding of the country. That is why his views used to be pragmatic. His thoughts conspicuously reflect the impact of our cultural heritage. He always gave preference to national interest and our own value of life, be it the question of national policy or international policy. He had a good knowledge of the subjects he dealt with which definitely provided him a sense of self-confidence under whose light he remained engrossed in the work of nation-building. He has written in the Preface to his autobiography:

> I had left government service with an awareness that I had ill-served my country by serving a foreign government for twelve years. In order to atone for this, I should spend the rest of my life in the service of the country and the people. I resolve I would not do anything to serve my own interests in this world.

I feel Morarjibhai succeeded in keeping up this resolve to the hilt. It is a matter of pride for all of us that in our public life we had the privilege of being associated with such a person who served the country with total dedication and selflessness. It is, therefore, in the very fitness of things that his portrait is being put up in the Central Hall of the Parliament. This portrait of Morarjibhai, along with those of our other great leaders, will remain a source of inspiration to us, as also to posterity.

Jai Hind.

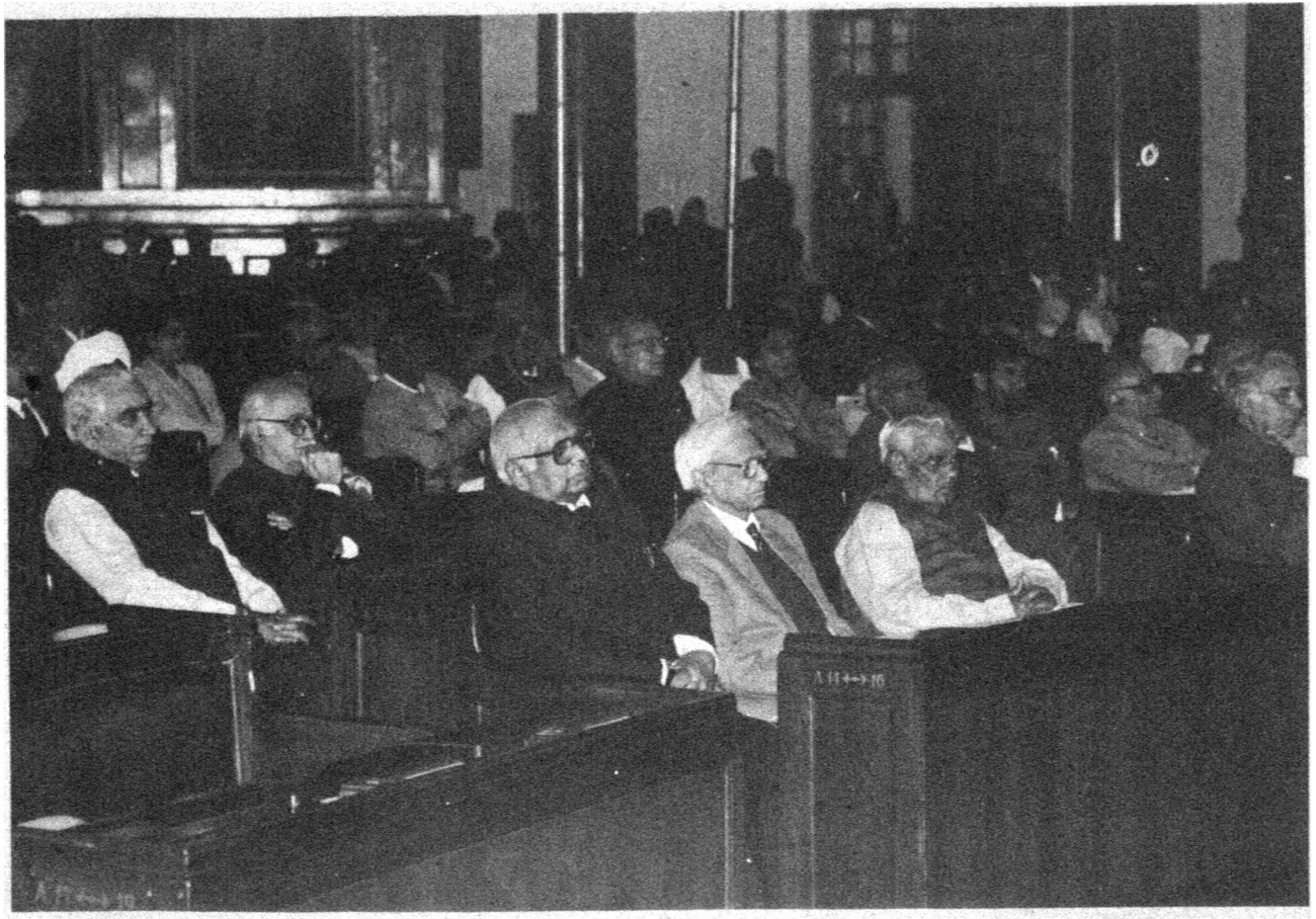
The Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri K.R. Narayanan unveiling the

Shri Somnath Chatterjee, MP addressing the gathering in the Central Hall

The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil delivering his address

The Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao addressing the gathering

The Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha,
Shri K.R. Narayanan delivering his address



A view of the distinguished gathering in the Central Hall

2

ADDRESSES AT THE UNVEILING OF THE PORTRAIT OF SHRI N.C. CHATTERJEE

On 20 December 1995, a portrait of Shri N.C. Chatterjee, an eminent parliamentarian of his times, was unveiled in the Central Hall of Parliament House by the Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri K.R. Narayanan. Besides the Vice-President, the distinguished gathering in the Central Hall was addressed by the Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao, the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil and Shri Somnath Chatterjee, MP.

Shri Shambu Das, a well-known artist, is the painter of the portrait.

We reproduce below the texts of the Addresses delivered by the dignitaries on the occasion.

—Editor

ADDRESS BY SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE, MP

Respected Upa-Rashtrapatiji, Respected Pradhanmantriji, Respected Mr. Speaker, Honourable Ministers, Fellow Members of Parliament, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen:

On my behalf and on behalf of the members of my family and many others who have had close association with my father late N.C. Chatterjee, I express our sincere gratitude to the Honourable Speaker and to the Parliament of India for accepting the donation of his portrait to be kept in the precincts of this great august House, and for organising this function in honour of his memory. We are grateful to Respected Upa-Rashtrapatiji for having consented to unveil the portrait and to the Honourable Prime Minister and the Honourable Speaker for having graced the occasion.

It is not for me to refer to or dwell upon the services rendered by N.C. Chatterjee to Parliament or of his achievements, except that I wish to emphasise upon his total commitment to the principles of parliamentary democracy and to Parliament as a great institution and if one goes through his speeches, one will find his deep concern for the common people, whose urges and aspirations are to be reflected in the House. This donation by us is to renew our commitment to the goal he cherished and to continue the endeavours he made to uphold the best traditions of the parliamentary institution.

N.C. Chatterjee was a uniformly brilliant student and stood first in Class-I at the Bar Examination in England, and was granted the most

coveted certificate of honour by the Inns of Court. He was awarded the prestigious Premchand Roychand Scholarship of Calcutta University. He belonged to a family of humble means but with his devotion, with a sense of discipline and commitment to duty, he became one of the leading lawyers in the country and one of the active and important members of the Lok Sabha.

He served the country in various capacities. For his legal acumen, he was appointed by Prime Minister Shastri as one of the leading counsels to represent India before the Kutch Tribunal in Geneva and he was appointed by the Central Government to be the Chairman of the Refugee Rehabilitation Review Committee to look into the problems of refugee rehabilitation. And the report submitted by him showed his great concern for the hapless millions who had to come to India for reasons beyond their control. He toured several places in what became East Pakistan and for a number of days he was with Mahatma Gandhi when he toured Noakhali.

He always upheld the principles of civil liberties and human rights and made significant contribution to widen their frontiers and was associated with many public welfare bodies and organisations as well as educational institutions. He was the Treasurer of the Institute of Constitutional and Parliamentary Studies from its inception. He was also the Executive Chairman of the Indian Law Institute for a number of years and was the Vice-President of the Supreme Court Bar Association for several terms.

He was a member of the First, Third and Fourth Lok Sabha and the pages of the Lok Sabha Debates will show his concern for the suffering humanity and his commitment to civil liberties.

We shall deem to be more than amply rewarded if his portrait, which has been painted by a Calcutta artist, Shri Shambu Das, will rouse interest in our coming generations to the importance of the rule of law, civil liberties, and parliamentary democracy.

Thank you.

ADDRESS BY THE SPEAKER, LOK SABHA, SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL

I have great pleasure in extending a warm welcome to Respected Vice-President, Respected Prime Minister, Honourable Ministers, Honourable Leader of the Opposition, Honourable Members of Parliament, Honourable Shri Somnath Chatterjee, Learned Officers and Ladies and Gentlemen in this meeting, which is organised to unveil the portrait of Shri N.C. Chatterjee.

We would like to express our gratefulness to the Upa-Rashtrapatiji for agreeing to unveil the portrait and to address the members of this gathering. We would like to thank the respected Prime Minister

for gracing this occasion and agreeing to address the audience on this occasion.

In this Session, the Parliament has invited the high dignitaries to attend the functions organised in this august Hall to remember the great leaders of India and they have always obliged us by responding to our requests favourably, and we are grateful to them for the same.

We would like to thank Shri Somnath Chatterjee for having got the portrait painted and for having donated the same to the Parliament.

Some of us had not seen Shri N.C. Chatterjee. However, such of us can imagine how Shri N.C. Chatterjee might have worked in the Parliament at least partly by observing how Shri Somnath Chatterjee works in the House.

I would like to congratulate the artist for the exquisite manner in which he has done the portrait. I have no hesitation in saying that the portrait is one of the best painting we have in the Parliament.

Shri N.C. Chatterjee was a great lawyer, a great Judge and a great parliamentarian. What he did as a lawyer, as a Judge and as a law-maker has left a mark in the fields in which he worked. Lawyers, judges and parliamentarians remember and shall keep remembering him with great reverence. He understood the penury and the pangs of it and pined at the pains of the poor and did his best to help them in the manner he could. He valued the liberty of all and helped those who were fighting for their human rights and liberty. His advocacy of liberty in the courts of law was very forceful and convincing and secured for him the respect of not only those who struggled for it but also those who had to dispense justice.

He was a very respected parliamentarian who always followed the rules of procedure and tenets of conduct in the House meticulously. His speeches were delivered in a language which was simple, direct, poetic to the ears of the listeners. The facts and logic contained in them were always compelling and convincing. I was told that it was a treat to hear him. He raised the standard of debates and made the instrument of Parliament more potent and effective. He could be compared to any of the best parliamentarians of India.

He was steeped, I was told, in the Indian philosophy which embraced all human beings, living creatures, plants and inanimate objects. It was because of this that he became a leader of a party which valued the cosmic approach towards life. But when he found that some of the party members did not follow the broad-minded and broad-based ideology, differences developed between him and other party members which resulted in his separating from it.

A portrait of such an intellectual giant, patriot and fine human being would inspire us all to put in our best in all things we do, to do our best to protect, preserve and enhance the prestige and dignity of Parliament and to do justice to all in matters, political, economic and social.

Let us pay our homage to the memory of one of the most patriotic and just sons of India very sincerely. Thank you.

ADDRESS BY THE PRIME MINISTER, SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO

Revered Upa-Rashtrapatiji, Respected Speaker, Somnathji and Friends :

It gives me great pleasure to be present here today on the unveiling of the portrait of Shri N.C. Chatterjee in the Central Hall of Parliament. Shri Chatterjee was an outstanding scholar, a deep thinker and a jurist of international repute. His contribution in presenting public causes before commissions and committees is without parallel. His presentation of India's case at the Kutch International Tribunal would always be remembered. In the Parliament his erudition and learning left a mark on the issues of civil liberties and development of subordinate legislation.

Shri Chatterjee had a multi-faceted personality. He was a brilliant orator and an eminent lawyer. He was a combination of an intellectual and man of action. He was a committed champion of civil liberties and worked for the uplift of the Scheduled Castes and the backward classes. At the same time, he was a great scholar of Indology, comparative politics and constitutional and international law. He was deeply conscious of the social problems of the country and had also served as a Judge of the Calcutta High Court. It was a rare combination of a judicial mind with great sensitivity to the problems of the country.

Shri Chatterjee's scholarship was reflected in the large number of books which he wrote on law. His books on Company Law, Comparative Jurisprudence and Indian constitutional law have become standard books on these subjects. He used his vast knowledge to reflect on many of the problems of the country having international ramifications. He was a member of the Special Committee on Tibet of the International Commission of Jurists and represented India at the Commonwealth Law Conference held in London in 1955. His crowning glory was when he acted as the Counsel for India at the Kutch International Tribunal.

Today, we are honouring one of the distinguished sons of India. His arguments were cogent and forceful. He always stood for rule of law and wanted that correct constitutional methods should be adopted in sorting out the problems. He was always concerned about the role of Parliament in legislation and democracy. As a champion of civil liberties, he stood for democratic principles and ideals. For him, democracy was

the biggest guarantee of rule of law. Our Parliament is the embodiment of our democracy. It ensures freedom of speech, debate and discussion. But it also demands mutual respect, tolerance of others' views and an understanding of the others' point of view.

Our Parliament had members like Shri Chatterjee. He always expressed his views without any hesitation or fear. His criticisms were often sharp and crisp. They were forcefully put in the House. We, as members, must keep up that tradition of having open debates in Parliament. We have to uphold the traditions set by people like Shri Chatterjee. These institutions must be allowed to function. All of us are committed to strengthening this institution.

The life and work of Shri Chatterjee is a source of inspiration. Views might be different. There could be differences in approach. But our real tribute to Shri Chatterjee is to ensure that Parliament functions as per its assigned role in order to strengthen democracy in our country and ensure total adherence to the rule of law. I am sure his portrait would be a reminder of his role in nourishing our democracy.

Thank you.

ADDRESS BY THE VICE-PRESIDENT OF INDIA AND CHAIRMAN, RAJYA SABHA, SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN

Respected Prime Minister, Respected Speaker, Shri Somnath Chatterjee, Honourable Ministers, Honourable Members of Parliament and Friends :

We have assembled here to pay homage to one of the eminent parliamentarians and outstanding jurists of our country, Shri N.C. Chatterjee. He was one of the legal luminaries who entered public life and enriched it through his devotion to the rule of law and the freedom and liberties of the people.

After a brilliant academic career in India Shri N.C. Chatterjee went to London and took his Barrister-at-Law from the Middle Temple, standing first in the Bar Examination. Returning to India he set up a flourishing practice in Calcutta and soon acquired a reputation as a leading lawyer. He appeared in different courts, including the Privy Council. He was appointed a Judge of the Calcutta High Court, but resigned his position in 1949 because of the proposed provision in the draft Constitution of India that a retired Judge will not be able to practice anywhere in India. Shri Chatterjee was, from the beginning, interested in the public and political affairs of the country. He was closely associated with Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose and before the latter escaped from house arrest and left India *in cognito* he had sent for Shri Chatterjee and had discussions with him. In the first Lok Sabha elections he contested and

won from Burdwan Constituency with the support of the Communist Party of India. He was also member of the Third and Fourth Lok Sabha.

As a member of Parliament, Shri Chatterjee's contributions were noted by the whole nation. He was a firm believer in parliamentary democracy, and though a leading Opposition member, he was a stickler for the observance of parliamentary decorum and the Rules of Procedure. In the First Lok Sabha, he declared: "I am not one of those who believe in opposition for the sake of opposition", and he stated emphatically that "mere obstruction will lead us nowhere". In 1966 when disturbances occurred in the Lok Sabha, he cautioned the House, "....the functioning of parliamentary democracy would be impossible unless we put a stop to these very unfortunate and depressing incidents." His approach to parliamentary work was constructive and he made important contributions from the floor of the House as well as in the Committees.

Shri N.C. Chatterjee was a champion of civil liberties and the freedoms of the people. In 1952 when the Preventive Detention (Second Amendment) Bill was debated in the Lok Sabha, he, along with Shri A.K. Gopalan, argued powerfully against it pointing out that there was no emergency in the country to justify such a legislation. His speech on the Bill was described by the *Amrit Bazar Patrika* as an "outstanding speech" and as "one of the best orations in Parliament.... noted for its richness of content, its forcefulness of arguments and its emotional appeal."

His participation in the work of the Parliament and its Committees was full-blooded and productive. As a member of the Business Advisory Committee of the Lok Sabha, he pleaded for the allocation of time to discuss the activities of the Ministry of Law. The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs expressed surprise at this suggestion and said: "...nothing like that has happened in the history of the Legislature; never has there been a debate on the Law Ministry. What is this new innovation Mr. Chatterjee is going to introduce?" The question was later referred to Prime Minister Nehru who observed: "Now that Mr. N.C. Chatterjee is there, I am afraid, one must make some allocation (of time) for that."

Thus, through his initiative, the Ministry of Law was brought under the parliamentary scrutiny. This led to important consequences. Shri Chatterjee had a vision of India in which law played a crucial role. His ambition was to bridge the gulf between law and life. He considered law a dynamic instrument incessantly to be used for the uplift of society, and not as "the command from a political superior to a political inferior". In the First Lok Sabha, he sponsored a proposal to set up a Law Commission to reshape and reformulate our laws which were framed during the colonial rule, and were unsuited to the needs and priorities of independent India. The proposal was accepted by the Law Minister. After the Law Commission was set up, he followed its activities closely

and during debates in the House, appealed to the Law Minister for its proper functioning, bringing our laws in consonance with the latest norms and developments in the legal field. Shri Chatterjee was deeply concerned with the independence of our Judiciary. In order to ensure this, he pleaded that the British tradition of putting the Judiciary with the Home Ministry should be discarded, and that the Law Ministry should be given this charge. Shri Chatterjee thus played a role in the effective separation of the Judiciary from the Executive.

In 1964, the Government was considering the Constitution 18th Amendment Bill, which aimed at curbing disruptive activities. Legal experts like N.C. Chatterjee argued that the Bill would result in the restriction of the fundamental rights also. Prime Minister Nehru listened to the arguments of the Jurists and decided not to pursue the Bill. Referring to this decision of the Prime Minister, Shri Chatterjee said: "That was the greatest tribute that could be paid to democracy and parliamentary government."

Shri Chatterjee was not interested in legal issues only. He was deeply interested in basic issues concerning the nation. This was evident when he moved a no-confidence motion against the Government of Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri, and wanted a clear and categorical statement from the Prime Minister that there would be no deviation from the policies of Jawaharlal Nehru with regard to the unity and territorial integrity of India.

Shri Chatterjee was concerned with social issues central to the health and sanity of the nation. He participated effectively in the Joint Parliamentary Committee on the Untouchability Offences Bill in 1955, and also in the parliamentary debates on the Bill. He characterized untouchability as "the national problem of the first magnitude". He said that merely passing the Bill would be of no avail unless concrete steps were taken to implement it. He suggested that free legal aid be given to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes so that they could realise their rights in practice. Probing into the root cause of social and political unrest in the country, he remarked on one occasion, "There would have been no Naxalbari if we would have been very fair to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes". Shri N.C. Chatterjee was a great parliamentarian and jurist with a social vision. I have great pleasure in joining you all in paying my tribute to his memory.

Thank you.

3

ADDRESSES AT THE UNVEILING OF THE STATUE OF PANDIT RAVI SHANKAR SHUKLA

On 22 December 1995, the statue of Pandit Ravi Shankar Shukla was unveiled in the Entrance Hall to the Lok Sabha Lobby, Opposite Gate No. 4, of Parliament House by the President, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma, who also addressed the distinguished gathering in the Central Hall. The other dignitaries who addressed the gathering were the Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri K.R. Narayanan; the Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao; the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil; and Shri Dharni Dhar of the Pandit Ravi Shankar Smarak Samiti.

The statue has been sculpted by the renowned sculptor Shri Harish B. Talim.

We reproduce below the texts of the Addresses delivered on the occasion.

—Editor

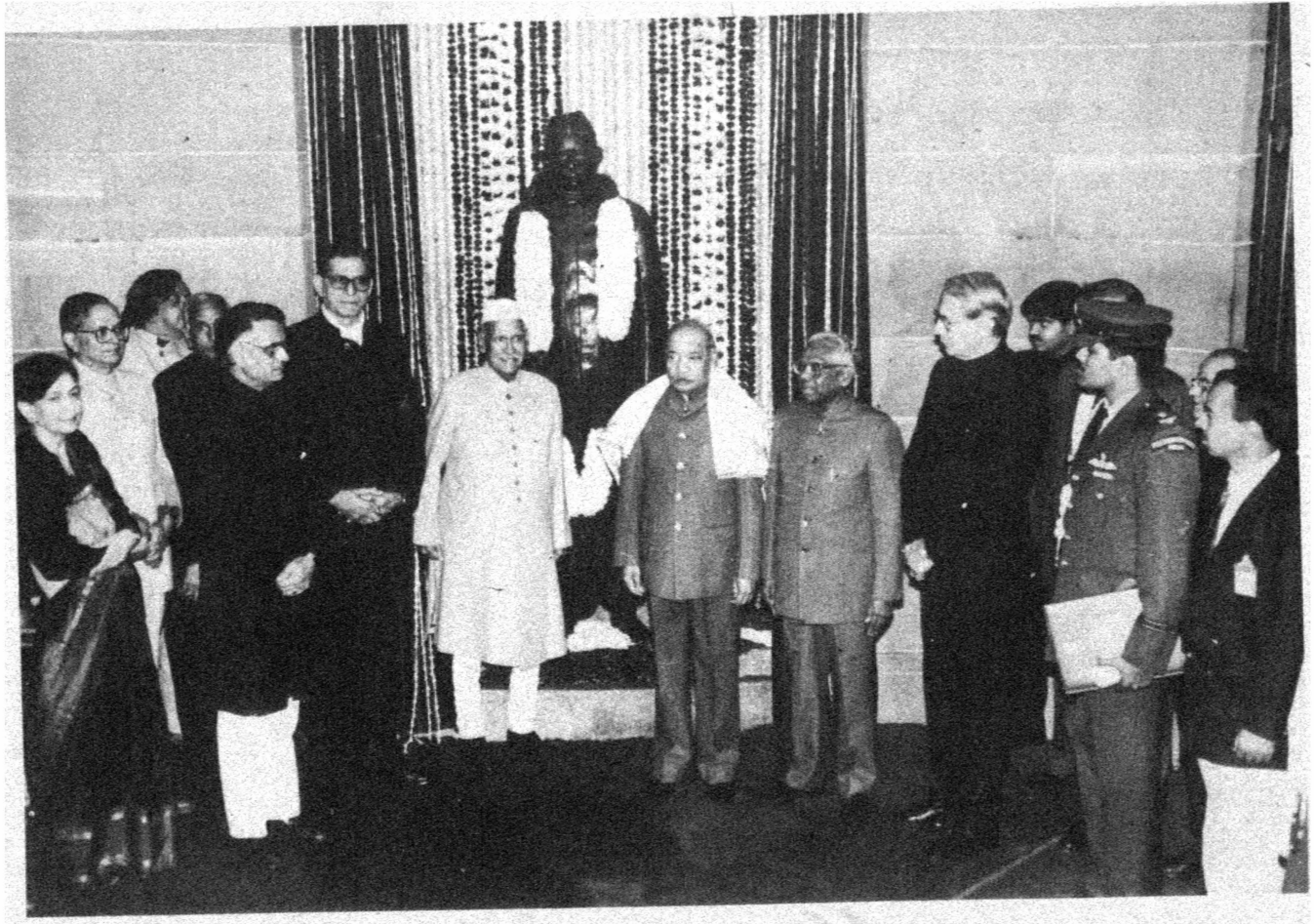
ADDRESS BY SHRI DHARNI DHAR*

Revered Rashtrapatiji, Respected Vice-President, Respected Prime Minister and the Honourable Speaker, Lok Sabha:

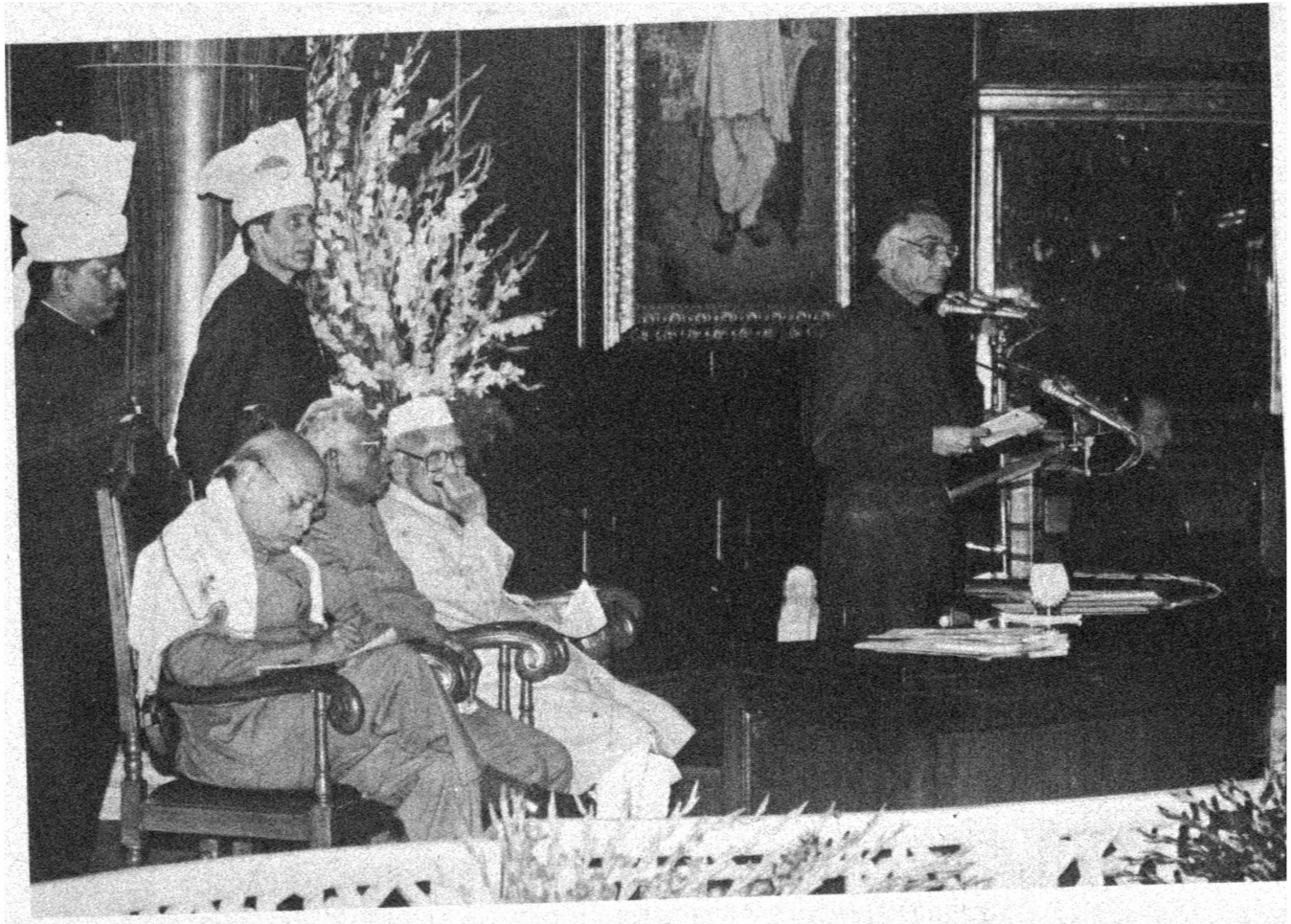
It is a matter of great satisfaction and immense pride that by God's grace, we have assembled here on the occasion of the unveiling of the statue of the Revered Pandit Ravi Shankar Shuklaji. We have come here after the Respected President unveiled the statue. The statue has been donated by the *Ravi Shankar Smarak Samiti* and as the donor, I have been asked to say a few words on this occasion.

Respected Shuklaji, whom we used to address as *Kakkaji*, was a saintly person. Fortunately, the Respected President and the Honourable Prime Minister, who know more about him than I, are also amongst us. Both of them had got to know him before I came to meet him and we hope to hear from you about him. The respected Vice-President and the Honourable Speaker are also going to address the gathering. Keeping this in mind, I would not like to take much of your time. While paying my tribute to the memory of Pandit Shuklaji, I would like to recall the speech delivered by him in this very august House on 13 September 1949 wherein he had urged that Hindi in *Devnagri* script should be the official language of the Republic of India. His suggestion was accepted and 14 September is now celebrated as the *Hindi Divas*. The text of

*Original delivered in Hindi

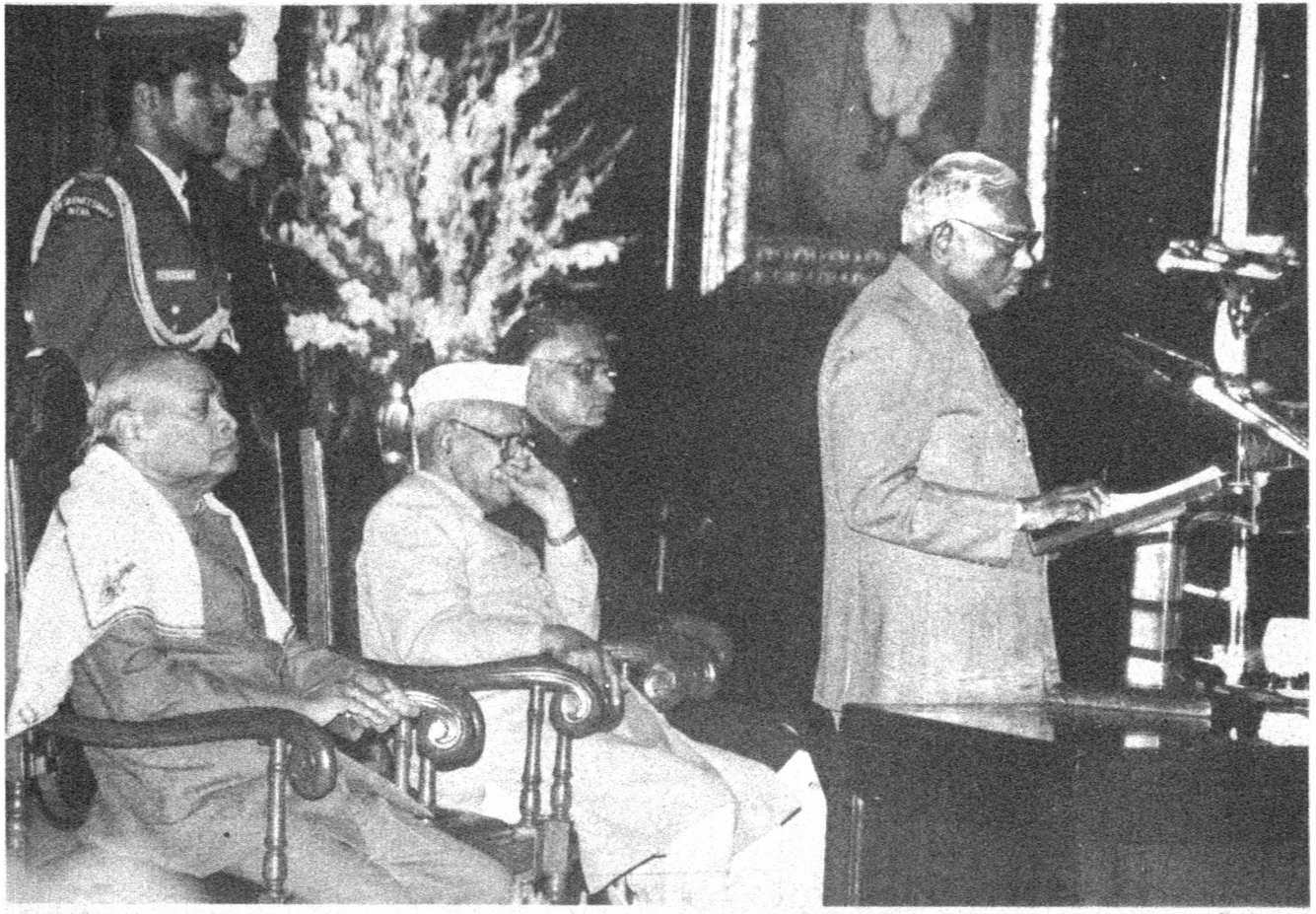


Dignitaries after unveiling the statue of Pandit Ravi Shankar Shukla

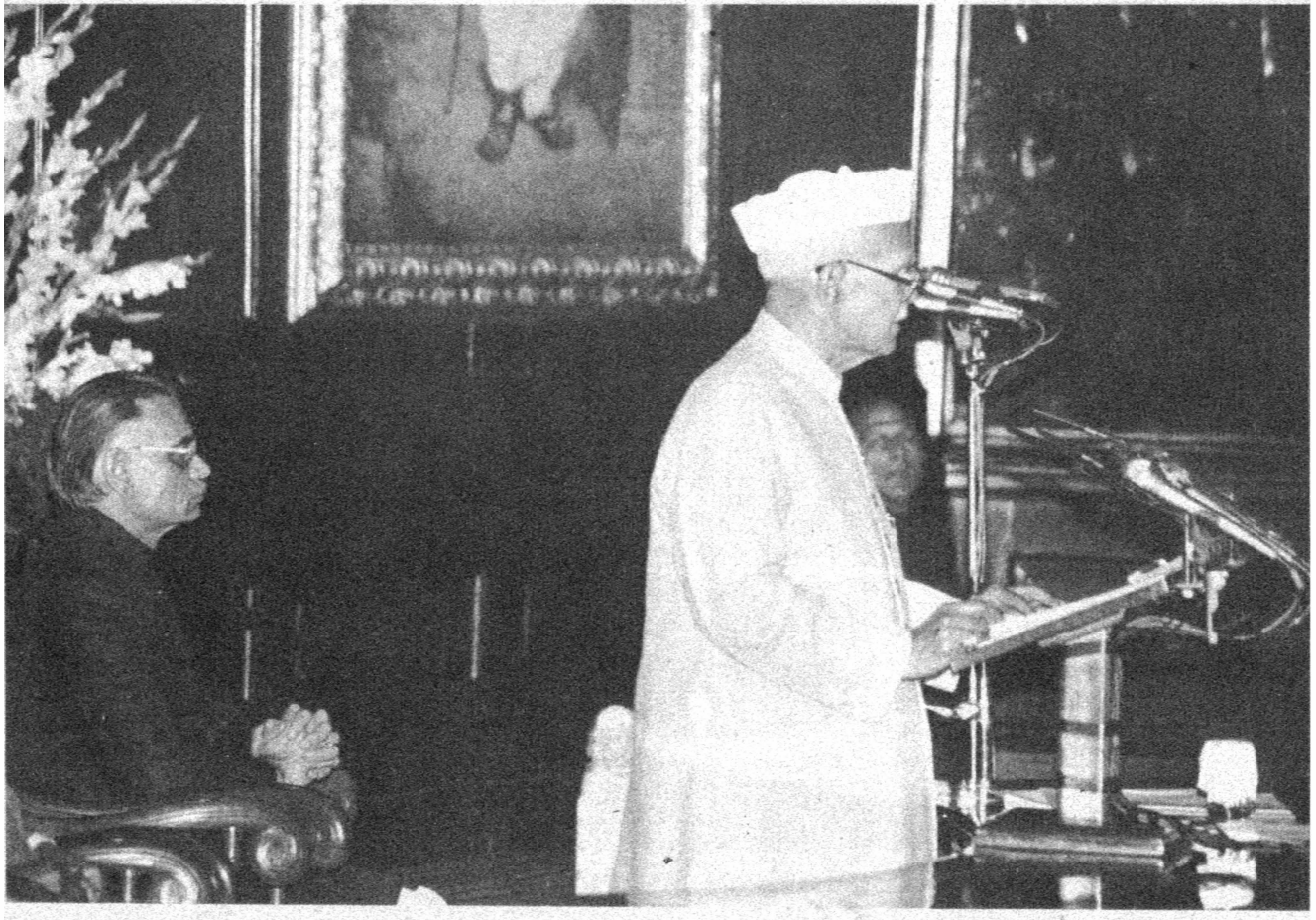


The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil addressing the gathering

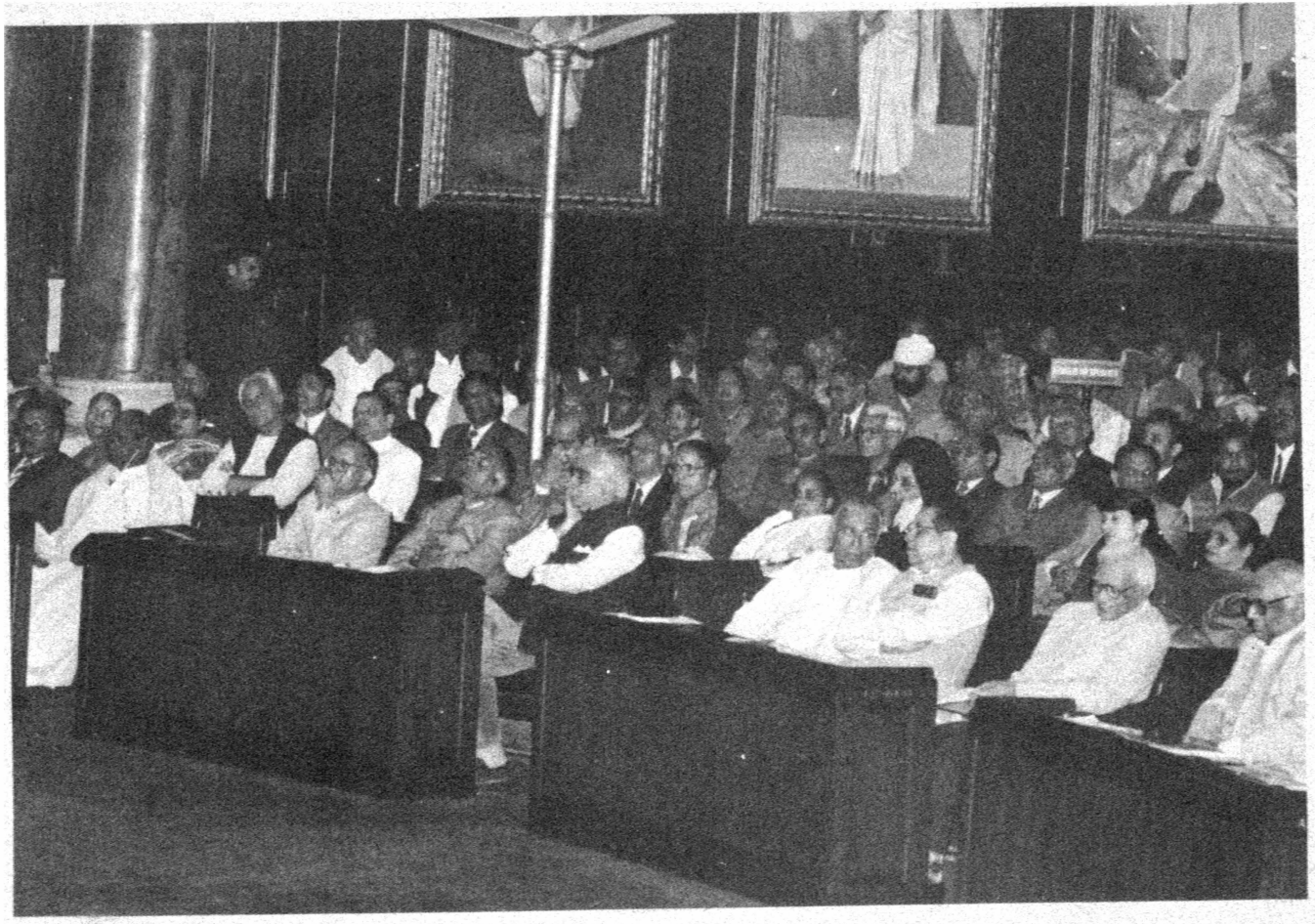
The Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao addressing the gathering



The Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha,
Shri K.R. Narayanan delivering his address



The President of India, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma addressing the gathering



A view of the distinguished gathering

this speech has been distributed here in the form of a booklet. I would request you to spare some time and go through it.

Respected Shuklaji breathed his last on 31 December 1956 at 3, Pandit Ravi Shankar Lane, New Delhi. Earlier, this used to be known as the Canning Lane. On 31 December 1991, on the 35th death anniversary of respected Shuklaji, this Lane was renamed as the Pandit Ravi Shankar Lane at the request of this *Samiti.* Respected Rashtrapatiji, who was then the Vice-President of India, presided over that function and the speech given by him at that time has been published in the form of a booklet. The speech gives a glimpse of the affectionate nature and pragmatic thinking of Pandit Shuklaji. For whoever would like to have it, this booklet is available at the office of the *Samiti.* Today, I once again thank the Delhi Administration for renaming the Lane after the Late Pandit Ravi Shankar Shuklaji.

Ever since the death of respected Shuklaji, there had been a popular demand for releasing a commemorative stamp in his honour. Concerted efforts of this *Samiti* led to the releasing of the postal stamp on 31 December 1992. I deem it my duty to thank again the Honourable Prime Minister and his Government for it. The 98th birth anniversary of Respected Shuklaji was celebrated on 2 August 1975. An Organising Committee comprising six members was constituted for this purpose. Our respected President and the Honourable Prime Minister, who are with us today, were also members of this Committee. They had issued an appeal on behalf of the Committee to emulate the example of the Late Shuklaji and strive for maintaining peace in the country. I would not like to take more of your time. Our *Samiti* is endeavouring to achieve that very objective in deference to the wishes expressed by you twenty years ago. This appeal finds a place in the booklet also.

Before I conclude, I would like to thank all the distinguished personalities adorning the dais. I am grateful to the Honourable Speaker for honouring us by accepting our humble gift. When we went to him, he accepted it with great pleasure. This function is the result of that meeting. The Honourable Rashtrapatiji's blessings have always been with us. His guidance as also words have been a great source of inspiration for us. We have also got the patronage of the Honourable Prime Minister all the time. It is because of his blessings that our *Samiti* has been regularly receiving aid and assistance from the Government. I am grateful to all the officers and employees of the Parliament who have contributed in making this function a success. I am also grateful to all the office bearers and workers of our *Samiti* who have extended their cooperation. I am also grateful to all the Honourable guests who have graced this occasion today. This august Central Hall is packed to capacity. I know many of you present here; at the same time I do not know many of you. I thank all of you for coming here in this cold weather and honouring us. Once again, I express my gratitude to the Almighty and take your leave.

ADDRESS BY THE SPEAKER, LOK SABHA, SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL*

Revered Rashtrapatiji, Respected Upa-Rashtrapatiji, Respected Pradhanmantriji, Honourable Ministers, Honourable Leaders of the Opposition in both the Houses of Parliament, Honourable Members of Parliament, Honourable Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, Honourable Members of the Diplomatic Corps, Journalists, the Family Members of Shuklaji, Officers and Friends:

I extend a hearty welcome to all of you here. During this Session, we solicited the presence of Honourable Rashtrapatiji thrice and he was kind enough to grace all the three occasions. He has honoured us by his benign presence on this occasion as well for which we extend our heartfelt gratitude to him. It is a matter of immense pleasure that today he has unveiled the statue of respected Pandit Ravi Shankar Shuklaji and is now going to address this congregation. The Honourable Vice-President and the Honourable Prime Minister have also graced the occasion and they will also address the gathering. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to them also. We are also thankful to all our Honourable guests who have been attending these functions thus adding to their dignity and glory.

We also express our deep gratitude to *Pandit Ravi Shankar Shukla Smarak Samiti* for donating the statue of Pandit Ravi Shankar Shuklaji to the Parliament.

India is an ancient, great country. The Himalayas, Kanyakumari, the Ganges, the Yamuna, its topography, the mountain ranges, the forest wealth and flora and fauna of this country collectively contribute to its greatness. More than these, the men, women and thinkers and professionals of this country have also contributed to this greatness. Their thoughts, deeds and words have combined to constitute our rich cultural heritage which is every encompassing and everlasting and takes care of the welfare of one and all. The strength and greatness of this country lies in its composite culture. Many such people came to the limelight during our freedom struggle. Their thoughts, words and deeds were the source of inspiration and strength for our common people which made our freedom movement a remarkable success. After Independence, they framed the Constitution for the governance of the country, legislated new rules and laws, set new traditions and precedents and also struggled and endeavoured to emancipate their fellow countrymen from starvation, ignorance, ill-health, economic disparity and social imbalance and they scarificed everything for the attainment of these goals. There is a long list of such great personalities and we can learn a lot by remembering them and treading in their steps. Many such people have taken birth on this soil whose remembrance and teachings can be greatly beneficial.

*Original delivered in Hindi

to us. Revered Pandit Ravi Shanker Shuklaji was one such great personality.

His was a great contribution to the freedom struggle. He worked to contain political, economic and social degeneration. As a member of the Constituent Assembly, in this very House, he contributed his mite in framing our Constitution and keeping in mind the potential of Hindi language as a uniting force in the country, he worked to give this language its due status along with other languages. He also contributed to the development of the States with all the might and competence at his command.

Today, his statue has been unveiled here. It is a matter of great pleasure for us and we hope and wish that it will leave a positive and lasting impact on our mind.

It is our concerted endeavour to shape this institution in the form of a replica of *Satyam, Shivam, Sundaram;* truth should prevail here, welfare measures should be undertaken and its functioning should be smooth and illustrious. We are confronted with many hurdles and at times feel exercised when we try to achieve these objectives. But great works and objectives perhaps cannot be achieved easily. For this we will have to go through and endure many pains and predicaments and continue our efforts unabatedly.

Lastly, we pray and hope that we may achieve as many objectives as we can. An overall evaluation of our performance not only tends to discourage us but some of our deeds even disappoint us. Many people are making efforts to minimise our sufferings. If these efforts become the concern of all, then we can reduce the miseries early and smoothly. We should not get totally discouraged nor is there any reason to feel so dejected. We do not have that bleak a situation, but we shall have to strive to build an atmosphere of enthusiasm and zest. To my mind, we can better achieve this by remembering all those who suffered miseries, and struggle and sacrificed everything for us. We shall always remember that we can add to our glory and prestige and strengthen ourselves only if we enhance the glory of this institution and strengthen it.

A poet has said:

"hum rahen na rahen, tum rahe,
tumhari shaan rahe, tumhari aan rahe"

These thoughts befit our institution which symbolises our nation. It can embrace anybody and everybody. All can enjoy its blessings. The statues of many sons and daughters of this soil can be installed in its premises which may constantly guide and remind us and our posterity of the country's greatness, glory as well as weaknesses

and simultaneously, narrate the hymns of the valour of this nation. I humbly pray that these objectives come true in the real sense of the term.

Thank you.

ADDRESS BY THE PRIME MINISTER, SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO

Revered Rashtrapatiji, Respected Upa-Rashtrapatiji, Members of Shri Ravi Shankar Shuklaji's Family, Mr. Speaker, Fellow Members of Parliament, Ladies and Gentlemen :

We are all happy today that revered Rashtrapatiji has unveiled the statue of Pandit Ravi Shankar Shuklaji in the august Parliament House. Pandit Ravi Shankar Shukla was an outstanding freedom fighter, a veteran leader, an able administrator and one of the builders of modern India. He was a committed democrat and a patriot who dedicated his life to the service of the nation.

Shuklaji, as he was popularly called, had his college education at Nagpur. It was during his college days that he started taking interest in public affairs and was drawn to the freedom movement. He attended the 13th All India Congress Session at Amaravati in 1897 and since then took a keen interest in the activities of the Congress. After Graduation, he taught for a brief period, but decided to opt for Law. He began his practice as a lawyer and soon had a flourishing practice. He came to be recognised as an outstanding lawyer of the region, both on the criminal and civil side, and came to be known for his live style. Young Ravi Shankar came under the influence of Tilak, Aurobindo, Malaviya and Annie Besant. When the Congress was split into groups of moderates and the radicals, he joined the radicals with Lokmanya Tilak. With the advent of Mahatma Gandhi, Shuklaji became his ardent admirer and follower. In response to Gandhiji's call he sacrificed his lucrative legal practice, gave up foreign clothes, started wearing *khadi* and participated actively in the freedom movement.

Shuklaji had great organisational ability and he used that to spread the message of *Swarajya*. As an elected member of the Raipur District Council, he began to spread the network of schools all over the District. He organised teachers' annual conferences and started inculcating a sense of nationalism and political awakening in the younger generation. A circular was issued to all the schools making *Vande Mataram* a daily routine before the school started every day. When the Congress Session at Lahore declared total Independence as its aim and decided to celebrate the 26th January as Independence Day, Shuklaji advised all the teachers of the schools under his Council to unfurl the national tricolor and celebrate the Independence Day on the 26th January. He persisted in

his nationalist efforts till out of sheer desperation the then Government dissolved the District Council.

Shuklaji was a very popular leader and was widely revered and respected. When he was arrested in 1921 huge crowds from all walks of life surrounded the Police Station and demanded his immediate release. Since then Shuklaji was jailed again in 1930, 1932, 1941 and 1942 during the freedom movement. Shuklaji played a leading role in the Civil Disobedience Movement. His devotion and nationalist fervour and his indomitable spirit in fighting the British at every level had enhanced his respect among the people. He always stood up boldly against the British and had become a symbol of resistance to the British Rule. His example inspired and motivated a large number of people to join the movement.

Shuklaji was an accomplished parliamentarian with an astute mind. His career as a legislator started in 1922 when he was first elected to the Legislative Council of the Central Provinces. In the first elected Congress Ministries of the Provinces, Shuklaji became the Education Minister. His past experience in devising innovative programmes for school children came in handy. He set about to expand the school education which could inculcate moral values, self confidence and above all a high sense of patriotism in the young minds. He introduced the famous *Vidya Mandir* scheme. The *Vidya Mandir* scheme was unique in several aspects. It was a rare synthesis of ancient ideals of *Gurukuls* and Gandhiji's Basic Education. It aimed at starting self-financing institutions which would instill a spirit of self-confidence. His scheme won the admiration and appreciation of Mahatma Gandhi.

However, the Ministry required a strong leader to stand up to the Provincial Governor, who used to preside over the Cabinet meetings. Shuklaji was the natural choice and he was elected premier of Central Provinces and Berar in 1938. His hard work and personal qualities ensured that he got maximum support and cooperation. His administrative acumen earned the respect and admiration of the bureaucracy and the people and he soon was tackling problems of the area. His Government succeeded in restoring the confidence of the people in parliamentary democracy and several welfare measures were initiated. But above all, the Ministry under Shuklaji had succeeded in creating public awareness and individual consciousness of the rights of the people.

The Ministry led by Shuklaji resigned in 1939 in deference to the decision of the Congress Working Committee. He was once again leading the freedom movement. He would accompany Mahatma Gandhi during his tours in the region. His entire family was involved and suffered in organising the movement. When the Ministries resumed office in 1946, Shuklaji was the natural leader. It was a historic day for a man who had been fighting for freedom to hoist the tricolor

on Sitabuldi Fort in Nagpur on 15 August 1947. He continued to work for the integration of the princely States. He was instrumental in the merger of the princely States of the region. He was a pillar of strength to Sardar Patel and played a significant role in dealing with problems relating to Hyderabad. He supported a large number of freedom fighters who had to flee Hyderabad. He gave them shelter and looked after them in Nagpur. He continued to head the Ministry till Madhya Pradesh was recognised and became the first Chief Minister of new Madhya Pradesh. During this period he laid the foundations of development in the region.

Shuklaji was a man of letters and a great lover of Hindi. He took a very bold stand and spoke in his characteristic style in the Constituent Assembly for making Hindi as the national language. His forceful plea took the shape of the Compromise Formula which finally resulted in the National Policy on Hindi. Hindi lovers felicitated him, including the All India Hindi Sahitya Sammelan, at its 37th annual session at Hyderabad for his contribution in the promotion of Hindi as the official language of the country.

Shuklaji's name is synonymous with the new State of Madhya Pradesh. He laid the foundations of Madhya Pradesh and before his death had initiated all the actions for proper administration of the State. He was a visionary. He was instrumental in setting up the first public sector steel plant at Bhilai and started major irrigation projects like the Tawa project in Narmada Valley and Dudhwa on the Mahanadi. The coal mining of Korba and Nepa Paper Mills were a result of his efforts. He established the University of Sagar and one of the first music Universities at Khairagarh to promote music and fine arts. Several technical institutions and colleges were set up for promotion of education. His deep insight into the problems of the people led him to initiate steps in almost every field.

Shuklaji, throughout his career, was very affectionate and humane. His towering personality was like a father figure and he took great pains to help people in difficulties. It was his humane approach which earned him the love and affection of the people. Pandit Ravi Shankar Shukla would always be a source of inspiration. His admirable qualities and his contribution in nation building would always be remembered.

On this occasion, I would like to recall the words of Rajendra Babu about Shuklaji and I quote:

> He is not only a great statesman but is also an administrator with indomitable spirit and proven ability. On occasions when these qualities were put to test, he came out with glorious achievements through his life. His perseverance and indefatigable industry combined with his matchless agility, have always been a model for our younger generation.

His statue in the Parliament is a humble tribute of ours which would inspire people and remind them of the glorious work of this great and noble son of India.

Thank you.

ADDRESS BY THE VICE-PRESIDENT OF INDIA AND CHAIRMAN, RAJYA SABHA, SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN

Respected Rashtrapatiji, Respected Prime Minister, Honourable Speaker, Members of the family of Pandit Ravi Shankar Shukla, Honourable Ministers, Honourable Members of Parliament and Friends:

Pandit Ravi Shankar Shukla was one of the stalwarts of our freedom struggle. Influenced by Lokmanya Tilak, Aurobindo Ghosh, Madan Mohan Malaviya and Annie Besant, he entered the Indian nationalist movement. Coming under the spell of Mahatama Gandhi he became a soldier of non-violence, offered *Satyagraha* and went to jail several times. He belonged to that glorious generation of great men who led India, through suffering and sacrifice, to its destined goal of freedom and Independence.

Educated at college in Nagpur, and at the Universities of Calcutta and Allahabad, Shri Ravi Shankar Shukla made his mark in the legal profession and was acclaimed as an outstanding lawyer. He entered public life through election to the Raipur Municipal Committee and then to the Raipur District Council. It was in response to the call of Mahatma Gandhi that he joined the *Satyagraha* movement and courted arrest in 1921, 1930, 1932 and 1942, and spent many years in British jails.

Following the policy of the Indian National Congress, he also fought the battle for freedom from the Legislature. Indeed, his natural bent of mind was in legislation and administration. In 1930 when he was arrested and tried, he told the Magistrate who asked him about his profession: "I am a law maker, not a law breaker."

As the Minister for Education, as the Prime Minister of Central Provinces and later as the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, he distinguished himself as a law maker and superb administrator. His notable contributions in the field of education, in dealing with and controlling communal disturbances, in the rehabilitation of refugees, and in the promotion of development, mark him out as one of the most efficient administrators of modern India. Gandhiji described him as one of the few administrators produced by the system of higher education in India. Jawaharlal Nehru commended him for the skill with which he handled the situation in his State during the critical days after the partition of the country and said in a letter, "I am glad that your Government is carrying on its work with efficiency and full confidence."

As Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, Pandit Shukla provided a people-oriented administration. He laid great emphasis on administrative restructuring and decentralisation. He directed Government functionaries to consider themselves as instruments in the service of the people. The senior civil servants working in his Government acknowledged that the Chief Minister and his colleagues never put pressure on public servants to do any unjust act. It is due to this that his Government commanded the respect of the officials and the entire administrative structure.

Pandit Shukla was the real builder of modern Madhya Pradesh. He was devoted to the industrial and agricultural development of the State. He was responsible for starting various industrial projects, among which the Bhilai Steel Plant was the most spectacular and a great dream come true.

As a builder of the state, one would single out Pandit Shukla's contribution in the field of education as the most significant. He introduced a system of social education and set up many institutions of higher education, including the Sagar University. He initiated the *Vidya Mandir* scheme which aimed at enabling students to earn while learning. He set up a Committee under Dr. Zakir Hussain to prepare a comprehensive curriculum which comprised spinning, weaving, handicrafts, agriculture, geography, social education, mathematics, music, drawing, painting, etc,. Mahatma Gandhi, commending the *Vidya Mandir* scheme, said: "I have no doubt that if the scheme is worked with all its implications and become popular throughout India, a silent revolution will have taken place". Prime Minister Nehru wrote to him in 1948, "Let me congratulate on the success of your social education. I think, other Provinces might well profit by this".

Pandit Shukla was an ardent advocate of the Hindi language. But he wanted a responsible solution to the problem of a national language. He stated in the Constituent Assembly that "this question of language should not be looked upon from the position of the North or South". In consonance with his scientific approach to the problem, he pleaded, "Propagate simple Hindi in Hindi script but whilst insisting on the script, allow the various writers and speakers of the national language, a certain amount of latitude in the matter of vocabulary". The approach of Pandit Shukla would facilitate easier and wider dissemination of Hindi at the popular level in the country.

Pandit Ravi Shankar Shukla was a leader with the national vision, though his main arena of activities was Madhya Pradesh. He was one of the builders of modern India. And he was a democrat, who wanted the benefits of freedom to be enjoyed by every Indian. On 15 August, 1947, unfurling the tricolor in the State capital, he said: "The freedom that we have achieved does not belong to any group or parts of the community. It belongs to each man, woman and child of this great country, with its rich and glorious national heritage".

I am happy to join in this ceremony of unveiling the statue of Pandit Ravi Shankar Shukla in Parliament House and I pay my tribute to the memory of one of the leading figures of the nationalist movement and Independent India.

Thank you.

ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT, DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA*

Shri K.R. Narayanan, the Vice-President of India, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao, Prime Minister, Shri Shivraj V. Patil, the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Members of the Council of Ministers, Members of Parliament, Revered Freedom Fighters, Shri Dharni Dharji and his Family Members, Members of Shri Shuklaji's Family and all others coming from every nook and corner of Madhya Pradesh, Ladies and Gentlemen, especially our Respected Freedom Fighters:

It is indeed a matter of great pleasure for me to unveil here in the Parliament House the statue of Pandit Ravi Shankar Shukla who was an active freedom fighter, a member of the Constituent Assembly and an acclaimed statesman. I, on my own behalf and on behalf of the nation, pay homage to Pandit Shuklaji.

I have had an opportunity to work with Pandit Ravi Shanker Shuklaji. I always got from him the affection of an elderly family member. His life of self-restraint and discipline and his affable personality, which were in consonance with the Indian culture, attracted the people at large. Whosoever came in contact with him became his admirer. He had in him the maturity of an elderly person, the forbearance of a freedom fighter and the dynamism of a sensible administrator. I had myself seen as to how patiently, coolly and effectively he used to give befitting replies to the pungent remarks made against him in the State Legislative Assembly.

As has been said earlier, Pandit Ravi Shankar Shukla started his career as a teacher and later on switched over to legal practice and established himself as a successful lawyer. At the call of Bapu for non-cooperation, he joined the freedom struggle. He was one of the *Satyagrahis* who actively participated in the historic *Dandi March* under the leadership of Bapu. He was arrested for participating in the Quit India Movement of 1942. He played a leading role in organising and mobilising the people of the region and in inculcating political awareness among them during the freedom struggle. People thus recognised his inherent leadership qualities and naturally it made him popular with them. On his arrest in 1921, people had even gheraoed the Police Station in protest.

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*Original delivered in Hindi

Ravi Shankar Shuklaji was deeply influenced by Bapu. He used to visit him at Wardha and Sevagram quite frequently for taking his advice. A session of the political council was held in Raipur in 1922 which was presided over by Shri Shuklaji. The colonial Government disrupted the session and Shuklaji was arrested. Bapu gave a detailed account of the event in his newspaper, *Navjivan*. While delivering his speech at the Conference of local bodies on 19 October 1939 in Wardha, Bapu had called him an able administrator. Shri Shuklaji was the supporter of the political ideology of Lokmanya Tilak. Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya was a person whom he adored. He was a disciplinarian and a man of democratic outlook. I regard that these attributes of his personality were inherited by him from Sardar Patel and Pandit Nehru. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru used to consult Shri Shuklaji time and again in the matter of rebuilding the nation. In those days the country was facing an acute problem of foodgrains. To deal with this problem, the then Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru particularly wrote a letter to Shri Shuklaji on 24 June 1949 seeking his advice in this matter. In the words of Pandit Nehru, "I am writing this letter to tell you about this problem. This is perturbing me. I would like to have your advice as also your suggestions in this regard". It shows how much importance Pandit Nehru used to give to Shri Shukla for his administrative acumen and wisdom. He had a missionary zeal for serving the people and a strong urge to stick to his principles. Dr. Rajendra Prasad had very rightly observed in his message on 12 July 1995:

> From the very beginning Shri Shukla has been known for his dedication and sense of service for the masses. He is not only a tactful person but also a dauntless worker. He fully manifested these qualities whenever the occasion demanded. For instance, when he was in jail, the jail authorities framed a rule under which it was required to take thumb impression of all the prisoners but he refused to abide by it.

After playing an important role in the freedom struggle of the country, Shuklaji fully devoted himself to the task of rebuilding the nation. Just like Pandit Nehru who laid the foundation for the development of the country, Ravi Shankar Shuklaji also laid the foundation for the rebuilding of Madhya Pradesh. He built the infrastructure for the economic, political, social and cultural development of the State. The Sagar University, the the Raipur Ayurvedic College, the Music University of Khairagarh, the Bhilai Steel Plant and the thermal power station at Korba are the unforgettable landmarks of the farsightedness of Shuklaji. Since I was a Minister of Education in his Cabinet, I know how much efforts he used to put in for the development of education in the State. It seems as if the teacher in him was always at work.

Even in the field of social reforms, the role of Shuklaji was significant. He wanted to build a progressive society based on Indian culture. That

is why he opposed all those elements which tried to weaken the society in one way or the other. At the same time, he supported all such actions that would strengthen the society. He opposed the evil of dowry system, *purdah* system and incompatible marriages. He also advocated the cause of women's uplift.

We see this broad vision of his in his ideas about language. He was a supporter and lover of the national language Hindi but he was not against any of the Indian languages. The proof of this is that he issued an order that anyone who wanted to do his work in Hindi or Marathi, could do so because a number of people who spoke both languages lived in Madhya Pradesh and everyone accepted this. He was of the firm opinion that no language could be imposed from outside. He believed that as long as a foreign language continued to dominate the country, we would be living in servitude; that was his wide outlook. Obviously, the people of the then eight Marathi speaking districts of the State agreed to this order and carried on their work in their language. I had seen a file wherein one note was written in Marathi and the other one in Hindi. In fact, there was no problem in this regard.

40 years ago, on 2 July 1955, when I was the Chief Minister in Bhopal, I had said:

> Pandit Ravi Shankar Shukla is a great lover of Hindi. He always strove to promote Hindi. Even in the Constituent Assembly, Shri Shuklaji put in all his efforts for making Hindi the national language and today, as the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, he is taking keen interest in the promotion of Hindi and in the enrichment of the Hindi literature by getting various lexicons published in Hindi.

He was of the opinion that the Hindi speaking people should enrich Hindi and there was no use in having a clash with the languages of other countries.

On 13 September 1949, Pandit Ravi Shankar Shukla had made a forceful and impressive speech in this very Hall in favour of Hindi a copy of which we have been told will be made available to us in a short while.

It is pertinent to note that he had a liberal view about languages. He used to respect all Indian languages. To him Hindi was a language that could unite the country and that was amply substantiated by what he said in his message on 15 August 1947.

> The freedom that we have achieved does not belong to any group or parts of the country. It belongs to each man, woman and child of this great country, with its rich and glorious national heritage. We should take a solemn oath of placing ourselves in the service of this nation. With a feeling of self-confidence

> and full faith in the Almighty and with an outlook of generosity, and with malice towards none and charity to all and rising above all sorts of caste and community considerations, we should move towards a great future that awaits us with open arms.

I feel that the implementation of that message of Pandit Ravi Shankar Shuklaji by our countrymen would be our best tribute to him. That vision of our great freedom fighters is yet to be given a concrete shape by the concerted efforts of our present and future generations. We have achieved freedom by making great sacrifices. I feel that the realisation of their vision is the prime duty of all of us. That will be in the best interests of present day India and the India of tomorrow.

With these words, I once again pay my tributes to Shuklaji. I extend my heartfelt gratitude for inviting me to participate in this function.

Jai Hind.

4

ADDRESSES AT THE CONFERMENT OF THE OUTSTANDING PARLIAMENTARIAN AWARD ON SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR

On 12 December 1995, at a function held in the Central Hall of Parliament House, the President of India, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma conferred the first Outstanding Parliamentarian Award instituted by the Indian Parliamentary Group (IPG) on the former Prime Minister of India, Shri Chandra Shekhar, MP. The distinguished gathering in the Central Hall was addressed by the President, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma, the Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri K.R. Narayanan, the Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao, the former Prime Minister, Shri Chandra Shekhar, MP and the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil.

The texts of the Addresses delivered by the dignitaries on the occasion are reproduced below.

—Editor

ADDRESS BY THE SPEAKER LOK SABHA, SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL*

Honourable President, Hnourable Vice-President, Honourable Prime Minister, Honourable Ministers, Honourable Leader of the Opposition, Leaders of Parties, Honourable Members of Parliament, Members of the Diplomatic Corps, Officers, Members of the Media, Ladies and Gentlemen:

The Honourable President, Vice-President and Prime Minister have graced this occasion and would also address the distinguished gathering. Respected Shri Chandra Shekharji will shortly be conferred the Award by the Honourable President. We are beholden to the Honourable President for gracing this occasion and agreeing to present the Award and address the gathering. We are also very grateful to the Honourable Vice-President and the Honourable Prime Minister for agreeing to address the gathering.

We had requested Shri Chandra Shekharji to accept this Award and we are grateful that he has honoured our request.

Shri Chandra Shekharji is one such parliamentarian who expresses himself in very simple words which come straight from the core of his heart, reach the hearts of listeners, and express the reality in definite

*Original delivered in Hindi

terms. His parlance is not difficult to understand; and that is why it reaches everybody's heart and mind. Whenever we hear him speaking on various issues facing our country, national issues or international issues, we get a proper view of these subjects. It is not that he merely poses questions before us, but we get to see his efforts also, and we could even search out answers for them. Every time Chandra Shekharji rises to speak in the House, everyone becomes expectant and listens to him with rapt attention. Sometimes, he appears angry too, but he has never been found violating any rules, or making any statement or doing anything which would, in any manner, undermine the dignity of the House. To my mind, the intensity in his speeches reflects the agony and the distress that he has witnessed in the society, in the country and the world at large. It is this pain and torment that make his speeches sound a little fiery, passionate and fervent. He is a political leader with utmost faith in democracy, socialism and secularism.

In fact, he stands above this Award. By accepting it, he has rather enhanced its dignity. By way of conferring this Award on him, we are honouring the qualities, thoughts and philosophy of a celebrated and acclaimed parliamentarian and also his perceptions on life. This felicitation may not be so much for him, but certainly it could be of great importance for Parliament and its traditions and for democracy itself.

The Indian Parliamentary Group took a decision to honour every year such qualities in an eminent and effective parliamentarian. It is an honour for the parliamentarian, his virtues and his thoûghts. Taking cognizance of this, certain rules have been made, under which a Committee has been constituted. The incumbent Speaker or the former Speaker of the Lok Sabha would be its Chairman and it may comprise of Leaders in the Lok Sabha, the Rajya Sabha and members of Parliament, but not the Leaders of the two Houses. The Deputy Speaker of the Lok Sabha and the Deputy Chairperson of the Rajya Sabha are also the members of this Committee. It has also been provided to include a distinguished journalist and an Officer to render necessary assistance in this regard. The Committee constituted for this purpose was headed by Dr. Bal Ram Jakharji. Shri Advaniji, Shri Gujralji, Smt. Najma Heptullaji, Deputy Speaker, Mallikarjunaiahji, Shri Malhotraji and Shri Kashyapji also were its members. They have very rightly and convincingly recommended the name of Shri Chandra Shekharji for which we express our sincere gratitude to the Committee.

Our Parliament is like an ocean with high tides and low tides. At times, when the storm comes, the waves rise very high and sometimes fall deep down. And when we witness this we feel that some massive upheavals are taking place. But the ocean does not have only waves, it has a depth too. The ocean bed is very calm and it is there that the precious pearls lie buried. I think we must keep this also in mind.

How far is it justified to assess the dignity of Parliament, just by looking only at the waves, while overlooking its depth and the pearls underneath. We will have to ponder over that. Of course, we should avoid the storms. If the waves do not rise too high and fall too low, it will be good for the Parliament, for democracy and for all of us. If a proper appraisal of Parliament has to be made, then we will have to watch the tides, explore the ocean depths and also assess the priceless pearls which lie hidden there.

We have in our Parliament many members whose attributes we can honour and salute. However, it is somewhat difficult to felicitate all these members at the same time. We have honoured the best and effective parliamentarians, and this practice will continue in future too. We all have to endeavour together to enhance the dignity of Parliament and strengthen democracy.

With these words, welcoming you all again and expressing my gratitude, I take my seat.

Subsequently, the then Secretary-General, Lok Sabha, Dr. R.C. Bhardwaj read out the Citation.

AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING PARLIAMENTARIAN, 1995

PRESENTED

TO

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR, M.P.

BY

THE PRESIDENT OF INDIA

CITATION

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR has been a leading figure on the Indian political firmament for over five decades. Ever since he entered Parliament in 1962, he has contributed substantially towards further strengthening our parliamentary system. Endowed with exceptional social sensitivity and courage of conviction, SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR has always espoused the cause of the people and the nation with extreme assurance and utmost certitude. His abiding faith in, and steadfast commitment to his countrymen have won for him a pride of place in their hearts and minds. Never one to compromise on his principles, SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR often trod on unchartered courses and traversed long streches, in the process fully realizing the sweep and scope of the problems confronting the people at large. His native intelligence and pragmatism, combined with deep-rooted idealism, has set him apart as a leader of quality. This resulted in his exaltation to the position of Prime Minister of India when he served the nation with distinction.

A forceful orator, SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR'S meaningful and compelling expositions on a wide spectrum of subjects have enlivened and enriched the proceedings of Parliament. SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR'S sound grasp of the rules and procedure of Parliament and his innate and inherent respect for the decorum and dignity of the institution should at all times be a shining example of the best traditions of parliamentary democracy.

It is a matter of immense gratification for the Indian Parliamentary Group to bestow its first Outstanding Parliamentarian Award on a Parliamentarian *non pareil,* SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR.

Indian Parliamentary Group,
Parliament House,
New Delhi,
December 12, 1995
Agrahayana 21, 1917 (Saka)

The President, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma then conferred the Award on Shri Chandra Shekhar.

ADDRESS BY SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR*

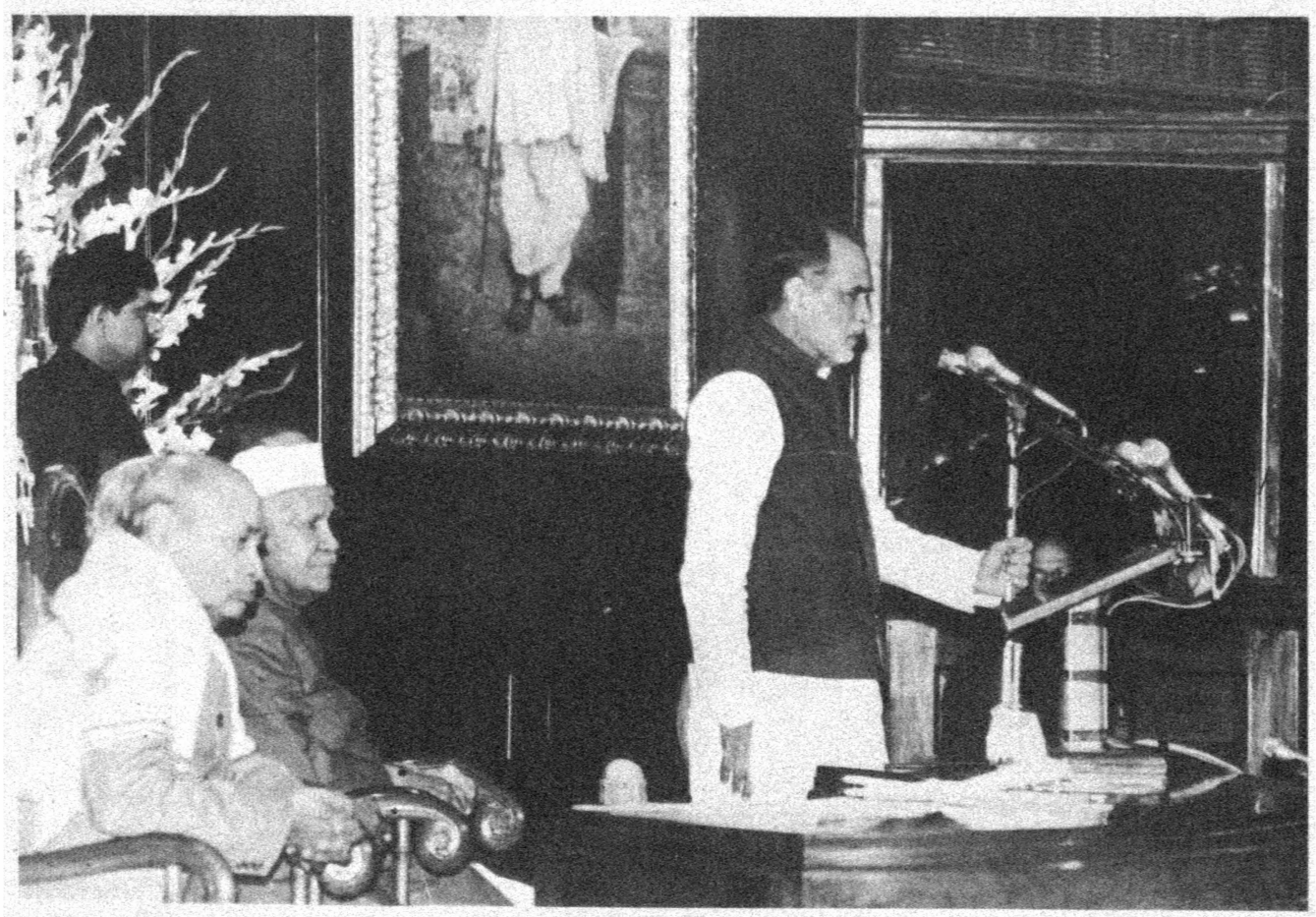
Revered Rashtrapatiji, Respected Upa-Rashtrapatiji, Honourable Prime Minister, Honourable Speaker, Lok Sabha, Esteemed Friends and Colleagues, Ladies and Gentleman:

I came to this Parliament 33 years ago. Conferment of this honour on me after 33 years of my parliamentary career is a lifetime achievement for me. It is indeed a privilege to be honoured by one's own people. Today I am reminded of the days that witnessed the glorious period of Dr. Rajednra Babu, Pandit Nehru's great sense of respect for the parliamentary institutions, Mavalankarji's deft handling of the business in the House and the unlimited powers of the members of Parliament to voice the sentiments and aspirations of people in the House. We have lived the moments of glory and also the moments of despair together. Amidst all the ups and downs, it has only been India among the third world countries where parliamentary democracy has survived to this day. We have seen that on a number of occasions in the past our democracy had to face many a crisis but our people and members of Parliament withstood the test and sorted out all the problems in a dignified way. Today a person like me finds hirnself aione in the corridors of Parliament and at times, I have a feeling of irritatiCn to which Honourable Speaker, Sir, you have also made a mention. But that feeling is not against any particular person but it is rather due to my own predicament. That is why I feel that you have conferred this honour on me, to boost my morale and also to save me from falling into despair and being led astray. The

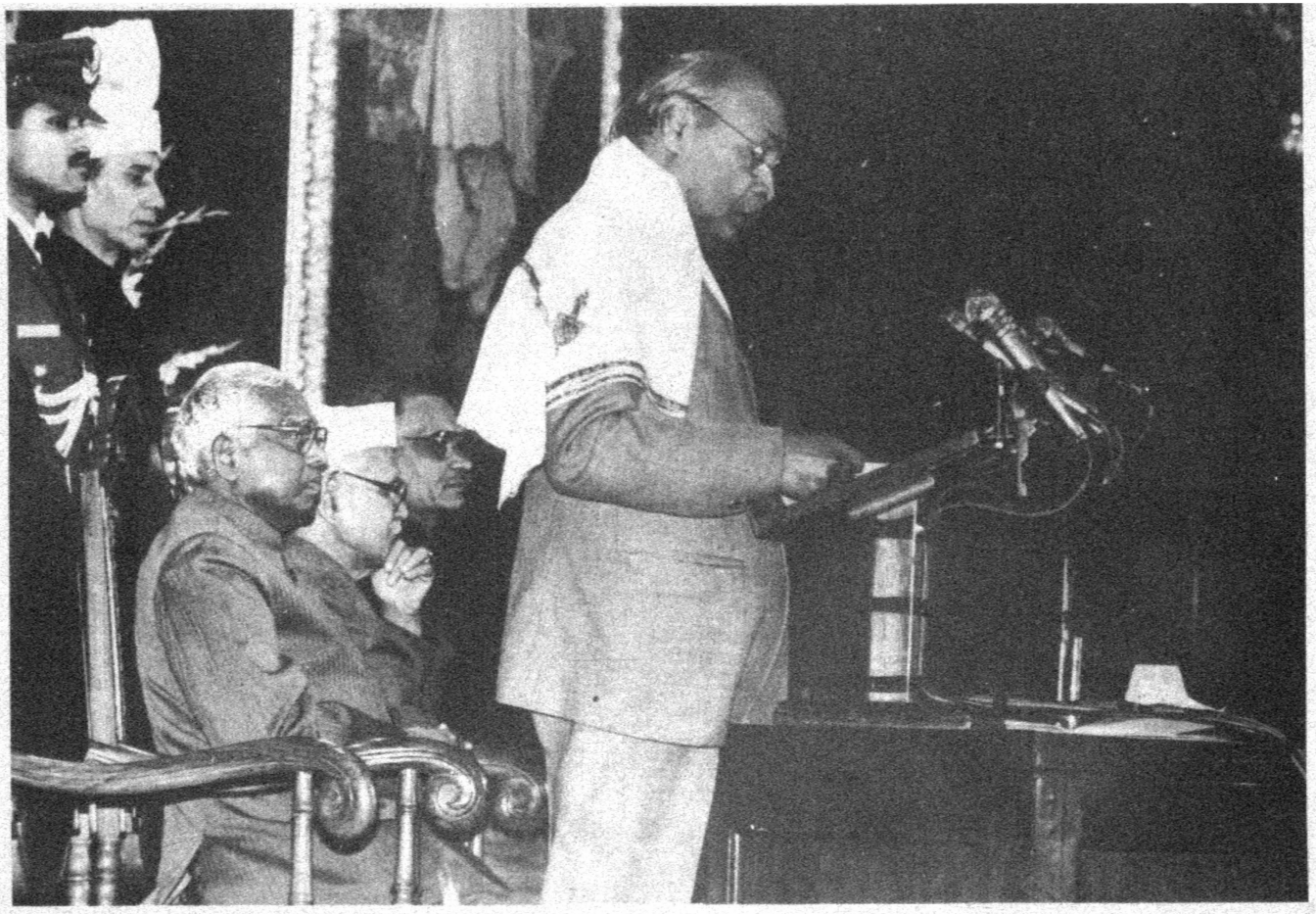
*Original delivered in Hindi

The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil addressing the gathering

The President, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma conferring the Award on Shri Chandra Shekhar



Shri Chandra Shekhar addressing the gathering



The Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao delivering his address

The Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha,
Shri K.R. Narayanan delivering his address

The President, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma addressing the distinguished gathering

day I was informed of this decision by the Honourable Speaker, I was surprised and was left wondering why I was chosen for this honour since there are a number of other parliamentarians who are more capable and qualified than I am. It is only today that I came to know about the Members of the Jury who made this selection. All of them are very good friends of mine and perhaps they took the decision as a friendly gesture towards me, ignoring my limitations. I do not want to mention their names. I have had a very long association with them. They have great affection for me. Perhaps this has led them to confer this honour on me. That reminds me of an Urdu couplet:

> Mein phir bujhne laga hun gum gusaro
> Meri tarif ke pehlu nikalo.

Honourable Speaker, Sir, both our revered Rashtrapatiji and the Honourable Prime Minister are literary figures. The Leader of the Opposition is also a litterateur. A litterateur has immense power to foresee things. He is not only endowed with the power of imagination, but he can also forewarn the society of the upcoming challenges. Today, this task does not rest with these two dignitaries only; rather it is the sacred duty of all those who are holding high offices. Respected Rashtrapatiji, Upa-Rashtrapatiji and the Honourable Speaker of the Lok Sabha who are present here on the dais, you have seen the world and have also felt the pulse of the nation. I urge all of you, history is knocking at our door. Our Leader of the Opposition is perhaps waiting for the last knock. He has given expression to it in one of his poems to stress that he himself will open the door when time knocks last but, Sir, is it not almost every day that history is knocking at our door? Is that door not going to be opened? Narrowmindedness and communication gap have made the environs in Parliament stifling at times. Can't you all sit together and find a way out to make Parliament once again reflective of the people's aspirations? Today, the Leader of the Opposition is present here on this occasion. I had also witnessed the day when Annadurai had spoken in the Rajya Sabha for about an hour advocating the secession of a State from India. The entire Rajya Sabha listened to him silently and today I have no hesitation to mention it that his was a rare piece of oratory. After giving him a patient hearing many leaders, among whom Atalji was the first to speak, vehemently opposed the stand taken by Anna but in their opposition, there was nothing that could give rise to bitterness and personal animosity. In today's atmosphere, we may be having personal animosity and attachments and dissensions and controversy on the issues. But in spite of all these differences, can we not give a new message of mutual love to this society and nation of ours by conducting ourselves accordingly? If we come forward to put in all our efforts to mitigate the sorrows and the sufferings of our rural masses and to take care of the state of helplessness and compulsions being faced

by our people in general, then there is nothing that can stop India from regaining her position as a leader of the world.

Honourable Speaker, Sir, we should derive inspiration from what you have said about the prestige and dignity of Parliament and we should ensure that the dignity of Parliament does not wane. A number of institutions devised by the Parliament itself are out to undermine its dignity. Here, I do not want to name anyone nor do I want to make any oblique reference in this regard. However, if the dignity of Parliament is undermined, then we would not be able to uphold the dignity of these institutions which are endeavouring to streamline the functioning of Parliament. If we do not understand this simple fact, then, Honourable Speaker, will you not take pains to make us realise it?

Rashtrapatiji, you are the custodian of our Constitution and also the first citizen of this nation. That brings a lot of responsibility on you. You should guide us in this direction. Pradhanmantriji, I would like you to discuss the problems with the Leader of the Opposition. Shall not the Opposition Leaders of the Rajya Sabha and senior members of this House, 8 to 10 persons from both the Houses, join hands to take concrete and effective steps to make this Parliament a proper forum for voicing the sentiments and aspirations of our people? Here I can assure you that it has been my constant endeavour to preserve the legacy, tradition and culture and also the civilisation of this country that we have inherited from our forefathers.

I express my heartfelt gratitude for this honour which you have conferred on me for my efforts and work in that direction as to enable us to compete at the international level and to march ahead on the path of progress. I will always try to prove myself worthy of this honour that you have bestowed on me.

Thank you all.

ADDRESS BY THE PRIME MINISTER, SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO

Revered Rashtrapatiji, Respected Upa-Rashtrapatiji, Honourable Speaker and Friends:

I am very happy to be present here on the occasion of giving away the Best Parliamentarian Award by the Indian Parliamentary Group. This initiative of the Group to honour a distinguished parliamentarian every year is a commendable action to perpetuate the great principles and traditions of democracy. This would also inspire our young members to participate actively in the parliamentary activities and the proceedings.

The selection of the Award Committee is apt and appropriate. Chandra Shekharji is one of our most experienced and active member of Parliament. He is a veteran leader and astute politician and above

all a very humane person. He has the distinction of being a member of both the Houses and he has participated in the debates of both the Houses with a rare insight and sensitivity to the problems. He has been a member of one House or the other continuously from 1962, except for a break in the 80s.

In 1983 he also undertook a *Bharat Yatra* covering the country and perhaps more appropriately travelled in the Parliament of the people. I am sure, many of us still remember his *Bharat Yatra*.

The outlook of Chandra Shekharji has been shaped over the years from his very early life in his village. He had seen the poverty and the problems of rural life in the eastern Uttar Pradesh. The people of his area had participated very actively in the Quit India Movement which naturally left a deep impression on young Chandra Shekhar. The escape of Jayaprakash Narain from Hazaribagh jail made him into a permanent hero and during his college days he had a chance to meet his hero and future friend, philosopher and guide, Jayaprakash Narain. He became his ardent admirer and follower.

Chandra Shekharji started his political career as the President of the Students Congress of Ballia in 1947. But he soon joined the Congress Socialist Party and then served the Congress as one of its young stalwarts. Chandra Shekharji has been a committed socialist from the student days.

The other lasting influence on the political career of Chandra Shekharji was of another great nationalist, Acharya Narendra Dev. He had seen Acharya Narendra Dev from very close quarters and greatly admired his intellectualism, selfless sacrifice and human qualities. The life of Acharya Narendra Dev was always a source of guidance for him as it was for many, many young men of those days. Chandra Shekharji has acknowledged the contribution of Acharyaji in his *Jail Diary*, as a person who gave a new direction to his life. One quality which Chandra Shekharji saw in both Jayaprakash Narain and Acharya Narendra Dev was the softness in their individual behaviour, yet tremendous firmness in their principles. This individual commitment to principles has shaped the character of Chandra Shekharji, which we have seen and are seeing in our political and parliamentary career. Chandra Shekharji has taken positions, has switched positions; yet, he has always remained committed to his beliefs and principles. This passion for principles has shaped him to become one of our outstanding parliamentarians. I may also add that under a wee bit of provocation, he is at his scintillating best.

It is remarkable that during his long parliamentary career, he remained essentially a parliamentarian. He neither aspired, nor accepted ministership. He always focussed on important issues and tried to maintain the healthy parliamentary conventions. He does not waste time

on frivolous things and has always been against distortion of facts. He believes in serious parliamentary debates so that problems are thrashed out with discussions and debates. Therefore, whenever Chandra Shekharji speaks, he is listened to with rapt attention. One may differ with his views but can never challenge his sincerity of purpose. His views add a new and an earnest dimension to the debates.

There is a streak of self-application on the part of Chandra Shekharji, perhaps inherited from his guru Acharya Narendra Dev. He did not accept any position even when there were numerous opportunities until he headed the Union Government after the difficult days of November 1990. In this respect, he is one of the few who are in this unique category. It is natural in a democracy to belong to different political parties and have different views. These differences only nurture and strengthen the democratic values. The role of a parliamentarian in such a situation is to bring out the problems of the people forcefully and set the agenda of action. There would always be criticism and opposition. It is an integral part of a democracy. Yet, a true democrat never loses his human touch. Chandra Shekharji represents that class of parliamentarians. Our Parliament has been adorned by many stalwarts. Their lives and speeches are a constant source of inspiration for all of us. Chandra Shekharji is a stalwart among the present day parliamentarians.

In honouring him today we are honouring the healthy parliamentary norms and conventions which have developed over the years along with our great leaders. Friends, to be acknowledged by peers is a great and satisfying experience. That is why it is said, *Samana nam uttam shloko astu.* I congratulate Shri Chandra Shekharji and give him my best wishes for a long parliamentary career and further contribution in the service of the nation.

ADDRESS BY THE VICE-PRESIDENT OF INDIA AND CHAIRMAN, RAJYA SABHA, SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN

Respected Rashtrapatiji, Honourable Prime Minister, Honourable Speaker, Honourable Ministers, Honourable Members of Parliament and Ladies and Gentlemen:

I must congratulate the Indian Parliamentary Group for instituting the Outstanding Parliamentarian Award. In a democracy like ours, in which Parliament is the head and front of the body politic, it is important that eminent parliamentarians are recognised and honoured. Today we are honouring a great parliamentarian of our time, Shri Chandra Shekhar. I am happy to participate in this ceremony of bestowing upon him the Outstanding Parliamentarian Award.

Shri Chandra Shekhar has been an ordinary member of Parliament, I should rather say an extraordinary member of Parliament, until he

climbed straightaway to the summit as Prime Minister of India. Winston Churchill was once asked, what he valued most in his life? He answered, 'Two simple letters which comes as suffix to my name, Winston Churchill, M.P.'. This can be said of Chandra Shekhar, M.P. who stood out as an outstanding parliamentarian even when he was an M.P. and also when he became the Prime Minister. On assuming the office of the Prime Minister he called on the Opposition Party leaders. When the surprised Press asked why he made these 'courtesy calls', he reportedly answered, 'No, those are not courtesy calls. In parliamentary democracy I would like to emphasise, it is by mutual discussion, by imbibing each other's ideas to the extent we can accommodate, that we can run the system smoothly. It is not a war zone that we should always think in terms of fighting or confrontation. Here we have to have reconciliation. As Prime Minister it is my responsibility to see that all sections of political opinion in the country feel that way. Therefore, I have no hesitation in meeting those who have contributed to public affairs'.

In his parliamentary activities, Chandra Shekharji has always conducted himself within the rules and procedures of Parliament. He once said that if you want to have parliamentary democracy in this country, we should see to it that parliamentary decorum is maintained. In the first week of March, 1991 when the parliamentary proceedings were marred by disturbances, he said in a broadcast to the nation that in a democracy we must keep some restraint on ourselves. As a superb parliamentarian, Shri Chandra Shekhar was master of debating skill that he could, while observing the rules of the game and restraining himself, hit hard at his opponents and move and shake the House as well as the nation. Gandhiji once said of Shri S. Satyamurti, if we have ten persons like Satyamurti in Parliament, the British Government will fall without a struggle. Shri Chandra Shekhar is a parliamentarian who could use the instrument of Parliament for revolutionary as well as constructive purposes.

Shri Chandra Shekhar is one of those outstanding parliamentarians who focussed the nation's attention on the problems of the common man and made the Parliament the voice of the people. Winston Churchill said once, 'Our Parliament has survived because it made itself the spokesman not of the Government but of the people'. In our Parliament Shri Chandra Shekharji was from the beginning a spokesman of the people. His concern for the lot of the millions of our common people led him to move a Resolution in the Rajya Sabha in 1973 on the need to make institutional changes in our economic structure if we were to achieve the objectives of our Five Year Plans. He argued, 'If you want to implement your plan, then you should try to have more faith in the common man and rely upon the toiling masses'.

From a radical member and leader of the Praja Socialist Party, a disciple of Acharya Narendra Dev and a follower and colleague of

Jayaprakash Narain to 'an angry young man' and 'a young turk' of the Congress to the Prime Minister of India, Shri Chandra Shekhar has remained a socialist at heart. As Prime Minister he told the country, "If there is an ocean of misery around, you cannot protect islands of affluence".

This concern for the downtrodden masses was the mainspring of his socialism. It was for him not a dogma, but a practical objective to be pursued with passion and commitment. Like the British Socialist Aneurin Bevan, he believed that democratic socialism was the child of relativist philosophy and a democratic socialist should have that rare quality of 'pursuing with passion qualified judgements' and not pursuing with irrational fervour dogmatic positions. When he became the Prime Minister of India, the *Time* magazine described Shri Chandra Shekhar as 'the perennial dissenter of Indian politics' Commenting on another occasion on dissent, Chandra Shekharji remarked: "If dissent and protest were to be misrepresented and sought to be snuffed out democracy would stagnate and society would suffer a sure death."

On this occasion, when Shri Chandra Shekhar is being honoured with the Outstanding Parliamentarian Award, may I congratulate this constructive dissenter and this great democrat of Indian politics, and wish him many more years of service to the nation.

ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT, DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA*

Vice-President, Shri K.R. Narayananji, Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Raoji, the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil, Members of the Council of Ministers, Shri Chandra Shekharji, Members of Parliament and former Members of Parliament, Members of the Diplomatic Corps, Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is a matter of immense pleasure to confer the Best Parliamentarian Award on Shri Chandra Shekharji in this Central Hall of Parliament. I extend my heartiest congratulations to him on this occasion.

Shri Chandra Shekharji started his political career from Ballia. The people of Ballia have made a very significant contribution in the freedom movement, particularly in the Quit India Movement. The 1942 Movement left a deep impression on Chandra Shekharji and he embraced politics with the aspiration of rebuilding the nation. Having been influenced by socialist ideology, he started his political career as the district secretary of the Praja Socialist Party in 1951 and later on reached the pinnacle as the Prime Minister of India. This bears testimony to his dynamism and diligence.

Chandra Shekharji has a long experience of over three decades of the working of Parliament. He was for the first time elected to the Rajya

*Original delivered in Hindi

Sabha in 1962 at the age of 35 and thereafter, but for a break of a few years, he has continued to be a member of Parliament.

Due to his association with the masses, Shri Chandra Shekharji has a good and deep understanding of the problems confronting the common man. He has always been a vigilant and active representative of the people. He has been able to mould the public conscience by his actions and ideology. He has constantly been endeavouring to mitigate the sufferings of the people through the medium of Parliament.

It is laid down in the *Taitirya Samhita:*

Yah Sabheyo Vidathyah Sutva Yajvathah Purushah
Surya Cham Rishadsastaddewah Pragakalpyan

That is, a representative should be credited with the flair of being wellversed with facts, serving his people with dedication and rendering his speech with unclouded luster.

Shri Chandra Shekharji proves true to this criterion. He is bestowed with a deep understanding of the subject and pragmatic thinking which make the debates substantive and erudite. He has raised all the important issues concerning public life in Parliament. He is always conversant with facts and has a great analytic bent of mind. Moreover, he has the knack of presenting the facts with exactitude in the course of debates. His homework for debates is clearly discernible. Besides having an emotional appeal in his speech, he substantiates his eloquent rendition in a logical manner. Usage of apt words and the command over, and fluency of, language make his speeches interesting. Being objective in his outlook, his approach is always balanced and is given due weightage in Parliament. His participation gives a positive direction to the parliamentary debates.

Shri Chandra Shekharji has a comprehensive and sound knowledge of the rules and procedure of Parliament. He has ever been strengthening the parliamentary system by adhering to these rules and procedures.

Secularism, respect for all religions and socialistic ideology are reflected in his thoughts. I personally admire his receptiveness. He always keeps his mind open. As a result of this his own intellectual horizon has acquired wider dimensions. His quality of being receptive to new ideas has developed in him the ability to assimilate divergent viewpoints. This quality is a must for representatives in a parliamentary democracy and he has no dearth of it.

I hold Shri Chandra Shekharji, a thinker and a philosopher, in high esteem. His books, *Meri Jail Diary* and *Dynamics of Social Change,* are testimony to his literary skill and vigorous thinking. Whereas his book *Meri Jail Diary* has the literary tinge in it, the *Dynamics of Social Change*

acquaints us with the philosopher in him. Shri Chandra Shekharji also took to journalism to give vent to his feelings. He was the editor of the weekly *Young Indian* for a few years, and during that period the editorials of this weekly were read with keen interest.

Shri Chandra Shekharji has shown affection and deep concern for the poor, the deprived, the exploited and the downtrodden from the very beginning. And under the influence of it, he participated in the Socialist movement of our country and he was also an office bearer of the political party associated with that movement. He undertook a *padyatra* covering nearly four thousand kilometers in five and a half months in order to have a firsthand knowledge of the problems being faced by the people of our country.

I commend the Indian Parliamentary Group for its decision to confer the Outstanding Parliamentarian Award on Shri Chandra Shekharji who is endowed with all these qualities. I endorse their decision. I hope that our parliamentarians would set an example before the world through their mature actions. Being the largest democracy in the world, it becomes imperative on us to do so.

On this occasion, I pray for his good health and long life so that he may serve the people for many more years to come and be able to strengthen our parliamentary system. I am very thankful to you for inviting me to this august gathering.

Jai Hind.

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PARLIAMENTARY EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIA

*The First Conference of the Association of SAARC Speakers and Parliamentarians**: The First Conference of the Association of SAARC Speakers and Parliamentarians was held in New Delhi from 22 to 24 July 1995. 84 Delegates from SAARC Parliaments, including 7 Speakers, 55 members of Parliament and 22 officials, participated in the Conference. 11 spouses of Delegates and 80 Observers from Indian State Legislatures also attended. A number of members of Parliament also attended the Conference as Observers.

The Conference was inaugurated by the Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao in the Vigyan Bhawan on 22 July 1995. The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil delivered the Welcome Address. The Speakers of all the SAARC Parliaments also addressed the distinguished gathering. The Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptulla proposed the Vote of Thanks.

The Business Sessions of the Conference were also held in the Vigyan Bhawan from 22 to 24 July 1995. The following subjects were discussed at the Conference: (i) SAARC Parliaments: their relations with the Executive and the Judiciary; and (ii) Committee System in SAARC Parliaments.

The 94th Inter-Parliamentary Conference : The 94th Inter-Parliamentary Conference was held in Bucharest (Romania) from 9 to 14 October 1995. The Indian Delegation to the Conference was led by the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil. The other members of the Delegation were the Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha, Shri Sikander Bakht; the Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptulla; and Shri I.K. Gujral; Shri Syed Shahbuddin; Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal; Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar; Shri Naval Kishore Rai; and Shri Inder Jit, all members of Parliament. The Secretary-General, Rajya Sabha, Smt. V.S. Rama Devi was Secretary to the Delegation.

The Conference mainly discussed and adopted Declarations/ Resolutions on the following subjects:

(i) Parliamentary action to fight corruption and the need for international cooperation in this field.

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*For details, *see* R.C. Bhardwaj, "The First Conference of the Association of SAARC Speakers and Parliamentarians" in *The Journal of Parliamentary Information*, Vol. XLI, No. 3, September 1995, pp. 234-46

(ii) Strategies for effective implementation of national and international commitments adopted at the World Summit for Social Development in Copenhagen

(iii) To comprehensively ban nuclear weapons testing and halt all present nuclear weapon tests (placed on the agenda as supplementary item).

Besides, the Conference held the General Debate on the Political, Economic and Social Situation in the World in which 129 speakers took part.

During the Conference, the Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptulla was elected to the Executive Committee of the IPU.

Award for Outstanding Parliamentarian, 1995: The first Outstanding Parliamentarian Award, instituted by the Indian Parliamentary Group (IPG), was conferred on the former Prime Minister of India, Shri Chandra Shekhar by the President of India, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma at a function held in the Central Hall of Parliament House on 12 December 1995. Besides Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma and Shri Chandra Shekhar, the function was addressed by the Vice-President of India and Chairman Rajya Sabha, Shri K.R. Narayanan; the Prime .Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao; and the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil. The then Secretary-General, Lok Sabha, Dr. R.C. Bhardwaj read out the Citation.

Unveiling of the portrait of Shri Morarji Desai: A portrait of the former Prime Minister of India, Shri Morarji Desai was unveiled in the Central Hall of Parliament House on 15 December 1995 by the President of India, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma who also addressed the distinguished gathering. The function was also addressed by the Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri K.R. Narayanan; the Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao; the former President of India and Chairperson of the Citizens' Committee for Morarji Desai's Centenary Celebrations, Shri R. Venkataraman; and the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil.

Unveiling of the portrait of Shri N.C. Chatterjee: A portrait of the eminent parliamentarian, Shri N.C. Chatterjee was unveiled in the Central Hall of Parliament House on 20 December 1995 by the Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri K.R. Narayanan who also addressed the distinguished gathering. The other dignitaries who addressed the gathering were the Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao; the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil; and Shri Somnath Chatterjee, MP.

Unveiling of the statue of Pt. Ravi Shankar Shukla: On 22 December 1995, the statue of Pt. Ravi Shankar Shukla was unveiled in the

entrance hall to the Lok Sabha Lobby, Opposite Gate No. 4 of Parliament House, by the President, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma who also addressed the distinguished gathering in the Central Hall. The other dignitaries who addressed the gathering were the Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri K.R. Narayanan; the Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao; the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil; and Shri Dharni Dhar of the Pandit Ravi Shankar Smarak Samiti.

BIRTH ANNIVERSARIES OF NATIONAL LEADERS

On the birth anniversaries of those national leaders whose portraits adorn the Central Hall of Parliament House, functions are organized under the auspices of the Indian Parliamentary Group (IPG) to pay tributes to the leaders. Booklets containing profiles of these leaders, prepared by the Library and Reference, Research, Documentation and Information Service (LARRDIS) of the Lok Sabha Secretariat, are also brought out on the occasion.

The birth anniversaries of the following leaders were thus celebrated during the period 1 October to 31 December 1995.

Mahatma Gandhi: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Mahatama Gandhi, a function was held in the Central Hall on 2 October 1995. The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil; the Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heputulla; the then Minister of Urbah Affairs and Employment, Smt. Sheila Kaul; the then Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Development, Col. Ram Singh; members of Parliament; and former members of Parliament and others paid floral tributes to the Mahatma.

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri, a function was held in the Central Hall on 2 October 1995. The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil; the Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptulla; the then Minister of Urban Affairs and Employment, Smt. Sheila Kaul; the then Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Development, Col. Ram Sigh; members of Parliament; and former members of Parliament and others paid floral tributes to Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri.

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, a function was held in the Central Hall on 31 October 1995. The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil; members of Parliament; and former members of Parliament and others paid tributes to Sardar Patel.

Deshbandhu Chittranjan Das: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Deshbandhu Chittranjan Das, a function was held in the Central Hall on 5 November 1995. The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil;

members of Parliament; and former members of Parliament and others paid floral tributes to Deshbandhu Chittaranjan Das.

Maulana Abul Kalam Azad: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, a function was held in the Central Hall on 11 November 1995. The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil; the Minister of Home Affairs, Shri S.B. Chavan; the Minister of Welfare, Shri Sitaram Kesri; the Minister of Rural Areas and Employment, Dr. Jagannath Mishra; the Minister of State of Law, Justice and Company Affairs, Shri H.R. Bhardwaj; the then Minister of State for Urban Affairs and Employment, Shri R.K. Dhawan; the Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptulla; members of Parliament; and former members of Parliament and others paid tributes to Maulana Azad.

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, a function was held in the Central Hall on 14 November 1995. The then Minister of Water Resources and Parliamentary Affairs, Shri Vidyacharan Shukla; the Minister of Rural Areas and Employment, Dr. Jagannath Mishra; the then Minister of State for Urban Affairs and Employment, Shri R.K. Dhawan; the Minister of State for Urban Affairs and Employment, Shri S.S. Ahluwalia; members of Parliament; former members of Parliament; and Smt. Sonia Gandhi and others paid floral tributes to Pt. Nehru.

Smt. Indira Gandhi: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Smt. Indira Gandhi, a function was held in the Central Hall on 19 November 1995. The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil; the Minister of Finance, Dr. Manmohan Singh; the Minister of Home Affairs, Shri S.B. Chavan; the Minister of Rural Areas and Employment, Dr. Jagannath Mishra; the Minister of State for Law, Justice and Company Affairs, Shri H.R. Bhardwaj; the then Minister of State for Urban Development, Shri R.K. Dhawan; the Minister of State for Agriculture, Mohd. Ayub Khan; the Minister of State for Human Resource Development, Kumari Vimla Verma; members of Parliament; former members of Parliament; and Smt. Sonia Gandhi and others paid floral tributes to Smt. Gandhi.

Dr. Rajendra Prasad: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Dr. Rajendra Prasad, floral tributes were paid at his portrait on 3 December 1995. Among the dignitaries who paid floral tributes were the Minister of Home Affairs, Shri S.B. Chavan; the Minister of Welfare, Shri Sitaram Kesri; the Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptulla; members of Parliament; and former members of Parliament.

Shri C. Rajagopalachari: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Chakravarti Rajagopalachari, a function was held in the Central Hall on 10 December 1995. The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil; members of Parliament; and former members of Parliament and others paid tributes to Rajaji.

Chaudhary Charan Singh: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Chaudhary Charan Singh, a function was held in the Central Hall on 23 December 1995. The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil; the Minister of Food, Shri Ajit Singh; members of Parliament; and former members of Parliament and others paid tributes to Chaudhary Charan Singh.

Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya, floral tributes were paid at his portrait in the Central Hall on 25 December 1995. Among the dignitaries who paid their tributes to Pt. Madan Mohan Malaviya were the Minister of Home Affairs, Shri S.B. Chavan; the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee; members of Parliament; and former members of Parliament and others.

EXCHANGE OF PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATIONS

PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATIONS VISITING INDIA

Seychelles: On the invitation of our Parliament, a six-member Parliamentary Delegation from Seychelles, led by the Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly of Seychelles, Mr. Shelton Macmillan Jolicoeur, visited India from 28 April to 5 May 1995. The Delegation called on the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil on 2 May 1995. The Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri S. Mallikarjunaiah hosted a banquet in their honour the same day. They called on the Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri K.R. Narayanan and the then Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Water Resources, Shri Vidyacharan Shukla on 3 May 1995. A meeting between the Delegation and the members of our Parliament was also held the same day.

Besides Delhi, the Delegation visited Udaipur, Jaipur, Agra and Bombay.

Cyprus: On our invitation, the President of the House of Representatives of Cyprus, Mr. Alexis Galanos, accompanied by his wife, visited India from 30 May to 4 June 1995. They called on the Vice-President and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri K.R. Narayanan; the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil; and the then Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Water Resources, Shri Vidyacharan Shukla on 30 May 1995. The Speaker, Lok Sabha hosted a banquet in their honour the same day. They called on the then Minister of Agriculture, Dr. Bal Ram Jakhar and the Minister of External Affairs, Shri Pranab Mukherjee on 31 May 1995. A meeting between the visiting dignitary and the members of our Parliament was also held the same day.

Besides Delhi, they visited Agra, Kulu and Manali.

Morocco: On our invitation, an 11-member Moroccan Parliamentary Delegation, led by the President of the House of Representatives, Mr.

Mohamed Jalal Essaid visited India from 6 to 12 August 1995. The Delegation called on the President, D. Shanker Dayal Sharma; the Vice-President and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri K.R. Narayanan; the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil: and the then Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Water Resources, Shri Vidyacharan Shukla on 7 August 1995. The Speaker, Lok Sabha hosted a banquet in their honour the same day. The Delegation called on the Minister of External Affairs, Shri Pranab Mukherjee and the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee and held discussions with members of our Parliament on 8 August 1995. The Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptulla hosted a lunch in their honour the same day.

Besides Delhi, the Delegation visited Agra and Bombay.

Cuba: On our invitation, a 3-member Cuban Parliamentary Delegation, led by the President of the International Relations Committee of the Cuban National Assembly, Mr. George Lezcano Perez visited India from 8 to 14 September 1995. They called on the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil on 8 September 1995. The Delegation called on the Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri K.R. Narayanan and held discussions with the members of the Standing Committee on External Affairs on 11 September 1995. The Chairman, Standing Committee on External Affairs, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee hosted a banquet in their honour the same day. They called on the President, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma on 12 September 1995 and the Minister of External Affairs, Shri Pranab Mukherjee on 13 September 1995.

Besides Delhi, they visited Agra and Jaipur.

South Africa: On our invitation, a 10-member South African Parliamentary Delegation, led by the Speaker of the National Assembly of the Republic of South Africa, Dr. Frene Ginwala visited India from 18 to 25 November 1995. The Delegation called on the President, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma; the Vice-President and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri K.R. Narayanan; and the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil on 20 November 1995. The Speaker, Lok Sabha hosted a banquet in their honour the same day. They called on the then Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Water Resources, Shri Vidyacharan Shukla on 21 November 1995.

Besides Delhi, they visited Agra, Chandigarh and Bombay.

South Asian Delegation of the European Parliament: On our invitation, a 12-member South Asian Delegation of the European Parliament, led by the Chairman of the South Asian Delegation of the European Parliament, Mr. Phillipe Monfils visited India from 2 to 9 December 1995. They called on the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil; the Minister of External Affairs, Shri Pranab Mukherjee; and the then Minister of

Parliamentary Affairs and Water Resources, Shri Vidyacharan Shukla on 4 December 1995. They also had a meeting with the National Human Rights Commission the same day. The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs, Shri Salman Khursheed hosted a lunch and the Chairman, Parliamentary Standing Committee on External Affairs, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee hosted a banquet in their honour on that day. They had a meeting with the members of our Parliament on 5 December 1995. They called on the President, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma and the Minister of Home Affairs, Shri S.B. Chavan on 6 December 1995.

Besides Delhi, they visited Agra, Bangalore, Belur and Helebid.

Vietnam: On our invitation, a 14-member Vietnamese Parliamentary Delegation, led by the Vice-Chairman of the Vietnamese National Assembly, Mr. Dang Quan Thuy visited India from 18 to 25 December 1995. They called on the President, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma; the Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri K.R. Narayanan; the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil; and the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee on 18 December 1995. The Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri S. Mallikarjunaiah hosted a banquet in their honour the same day. They called on the then Minister of Water Resources and Parliamentary Affairs, Shri Vidyacharan Shukla and had a meeting with the members of our Parliament on 19 December 1995. They called on the Minister of External Affairs, Shri Pranab Mukherjee and the Chairman, Parliamentary Standing Committee on Defence, Shri Indrajit Gupta on 20 December 1995.

Besides Delhi, they visited Agra and Bombay.

INDIAN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATIONS GOING ABROAD

Egypt: On the invitation of the Parliament of Egypt, the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil led an Indian Parliamentary Delegation to Egypt from 13 to 15 April 1995. The other members of the Delegation were the Minister of State in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Youth Affairs and Sports) and Parliamentary Affairs, Shri Mukul Wasnik; and Shri Rabi Ray; Shri Jaswant Singh; Shri Saifuddin Chaudhary; Shri Ajit P.K. Jogi and Shri Ish Dutt Yadav, all members of Parliament. The then Secretary-General, Lok Sabha, Dr. R.C. Bhardwaj was the Secretary to the Delegation.

Turkey: An Indian Parliamentary Delegation, led by the Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri S. Mallikarjunaiah, attended the 75th Anniversary Celebrations of the Turkish Grand National Assembly from 21 to 26 April 1995. Shri Vijay Naval Patil, MP was the other member of the Delegation. The Deputy Secretary, Lok Sabha Secretariat, Shri O.P. Ghai was the Secretary to the Delegation.

Austria: On the invitation of the Parliament of Austria, the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil led an Indian Parliamentary Delegation

to Austria from 21 to 24 June 1995. The other members of the Delegation were the then Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Water Resources, Shri Vidyacharan Shukla; and Shri P.C. Thomas; Shri Jagmohan; Shri Nyodek Yongam; Mohd. Ali Ashraf Fatmi; and Shri V. Dhananjaya Kumar, all members of Parliament. The then Secretary-General, Lok Sabha, Dr. R.C. Bhardwaj was the Secretary to the Delegation.

Hungary: On the invitation of the Parliament of Hungary, the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil led an Indian Parliamentary Delegation to Hungary from 24 to 28 June 1995. The other members of the Delegation were the then Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Water Resources, Shri Vidyacharan Shukla; and Shri P.C. Thomas; Shri Jagmohan; Shri Nyodek Yongam; Mohd. Ali Ashraf Fatmi; and Shri V. Dhananjaya Kumar, all members of Parliament The then Secretary-General, Lok Sabha, Dr. R.C. Bhardwaj was the Secretary to the Delegation.

Yugoslavia: On the invitation of the Parliament of Yugoslavia, an Indian Parliamentary Delegation, led by Shri Rabi Ray, MP visited Yugoslavia from 11 to 14 July 1995. The other members of the Delegation were Shri Satyanarayana Dronamraju, Smt. Kamla Sinha, Dr. (Prof.) Girija Devi and Dr. K.D. Jeswani, all members of Parliament. The then Additional Secretary, Lok Sabha Secretariat (presently Secretary-General Lok Sabha) Shri S.N. Mishra, was the Secretary to the Delegation.

Mongolia: On the invitation of the Parliament of Mongolia, the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil led an Indian Parliamentary Delegation to Mongolia from 14 to 18 July 1995. The other members of the Delegation were Shri Bhubaneswar Kalita; Shri Sangh Priya Gautam; Shri Dau Dayal Joshi; Shri M. Krishnaswamy; Shri Ankushrao Tope; and Shri Ram Kirpal Yadav, all members of Parliament. The Additional Secretary, Lok Sabha Secretariat, Dr. A.K. Pandey was the Secretary to the Delegation.

Canada: On the invitation of the Parliament of Canada, the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil led an Indian Parliamentary Delegation to Canada from 24 to 30 September 1995. The other members of the Delegation were the Minister of State in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers and in the Departments of Electronics and Ocean Development, Shri Eduardo Faleiro; and Shri Arvind Tulsiram Kamble; Shri Virendra Kataria; Shri Mohan Singh; Dr. Ramesh Chand Tomar; and Shri R. Margabandhu, all members of Parliament. The Additional Secretary, Lok Sabha Secretariat, Dr. A.K. Pandey was the Secretary to the Delegation.

Kuwait: On the invitation of the Parliament of Kuwait, an Indian Parliamentary Delegation, led by the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil visited Kuwait from 5 to 8 November 1995. The other members of the Delegation were Shri Hannan Mollah; Shri Ghuffran Azam; Shri

Palai K.M. Mathew; Shri S.B. Nyamagouda; Shri Bhagwan Shankar Rawat; and Shri Gaya Singh, all members of Parliament. The then Secretary-General, Lok Sabha, Dr. R.C. Bhardwaj, was the Secretary to the Delegation.

Syria: On the invitation of the Parliament of Syria, the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil led an Indian Parliamentary Delegation to Syria from 25 to 29 December 1995. The other members of the Delegation were the Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptulla; and Shri R. Anbarasu; Dr. Satyanarayan Jatiya; Shri Surajbhanu Solanki; Shri E. Ahamed; and Maulana Habibur Rehman Nomani, all members of Parliament. The Additional Secretary, Lok Sabha Secretariat, Dr. A.K. Pandey was the Secretary to the Delegation.

BUREAU OF PARLIAMENTARY STUDIES AND TRAINING (BPST)

During the period 1 October to 31 December 1995, the BPST organised the following Courses/Programmes:

Orientation Programme: An Orientation Programme for the members of the Orissa Legislative Assembly was organised on 13 and 14 November 1995 at Bhubaneswar, which was attended by eighty members of the State Legislative Assembly, including 40 newly elected members. The Programme was inaugurated by the Governor of Orissa, Shri G. Ramanujam.

Eleventh Parliamentary Internship Programme for Foreign Parliamentary Officials: The Eleventh Parliamentary Internship Programme for foreign parliamentary officials, inaugurated by the then Secretary-General, Lok Sabha Dr. R.C. Bhardwaj, began on 27 September 1995 and concluded on 14 November 1995. The Programme was designed to facilitate the study of the working of parliamentary institutions in India. It was attended by thirteen participants from various Afro-Asian countries.

Eleventh International Training Programme in Legislative Drafting: The Eleventh International Training Programme in Legislative Drafting began on 21 November 1995 and concluded on 31 January 1996. The Programme was attended by two participants from the United Republic of Tanzania, one each from Ghana, Lebanon, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Zambia, two officers from the Lok Sabha Secretariat and three officers from the Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu Legislature Secretariats. The Programme was designed to equip the officials with the basic concepts, skills and techniques required for drafting legislation, so that they could assist Private Members of Parliament, whenever required.

Appreciation Course in Parliamentary Processes and Procedures for Probationers of All-India/Central Services and Officers of Government of

India: An Appreciation Course in parliamentary processes and procedures was organised from 11 to 15 December 1995 for (i) Audit/Accounts Officers of the Indian Audit and Accounts Department; and (ii) Probationers of the Indian Railways Service of Signal Engineering.

Training Courses for Officers and Staff of Parliament and State Legislature Secretariats: A Training Course for newly recruited/promoted Research/Reference Assistants of the Lok Sabha and State Legislature Secretariats was organised from 30 October to 3 November 1995. Another Training Course for Reporters of the Lok Sabha, the Rajya Sabha and State Legislature Secretariats was organised from 20 to 24 November 1995.

Attachment Programme: An Attachment Programme in parliamentary processes and procedures for foreign participants attending a training course at the Office of the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India was organised on 4 and 5 December 1995.

Study Visits : 18 Study Visits were organised for participants from various training and educational institutions.

All Indian Conference of Indian Association of Special Libraries and Information Centres (IASLIC), Lucknow: Two officers of the Lok Sabha Secretariat, Shri M.K. Dubey, Deputy Director and Smt. Renu Sadana, Assistant Director attended the XXth All India Conference of Indian Association of Special Libraries and Information Centres organised in Lucknow from 26 to 29 December 1995.

Fifth Residential Course on "Effective Communication Skills": Two officers of the Lok Sabha Secretariat, Shri R.T. Pillai and Shri K.B. Tiwari, both Deputy Directors, attended the Fifth Residential Course on "Effective Communication Skills" at the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration in Mussoori from 18 to 22 December 1995.

Lecture: On 18 December 1995, Shri F.S. Nariman, former Additional Solicitor-General of India, delivered the late Shri N.C. Chatterjee Centenary Lecture on "Civil Liberties and Human Rights". The Lecture was organised in collaboration with the Institute of Constitutional and Parliamentary Studies (ICPS).

NEW SECRETARY-GENERAL OF LOK SABHA

Consequent on the retirement of Dr. R.C. Bhardwaj on 31 December 1995, the Senior Additional Secretary, Lok Sabha Secretariat, Shri Surendra Nath Mishra, IAS, assumed charge of the functions of the Secretary-General, Lok Sabha and Lok Sabha Secretariat with effect from 1 January 1996. He also took over as the Secretary-General of the Indian Parliamentary Group (IPG).

SHRI SURENDRA NATH MISHRA - A LIFE-SKETCH

Born on 27 January 1940, Shri S.N. Mishra has had a distinguished academic and professional career. He obtained his M.A. in English Literature and also successfully completed Diploma/Certificate in German Language.

Selected to the Indian Administrative Service in 1963, Shri Mishra has held important positions in the Orissa State Government. He was District Magistrate and Collector of Dhenkanal; Registrar of Cooperative Societies; Transport Commissioner; Managing Director, Industrial Development Corporation of Orissa; Chairman, Orissa Mining Corporation; and Secretary, Housing and Urban Development; Mining and Geology; Commerce and Transport; Revenue and Excise; and Labour and Employment.

From June 1987 to June 1992, Shri Mishra functioned as Joint Secretary, Mines in the Union Government. He was Managing Director, Food Corporation of India from August 1992 to November 1993. Subsequently, he was Additional Secretary in the Department of Programme Implementation till August 1994.

Shri Mishra has been associated with the Lok Sabha Secretariat since March 1995. He played a significant role in the successful organisation of the First Conference of the Association of SAARC Speakers and Parliamentarians hosted by the Parliament of India in New Delhi in July 1995. He has attended several international Parliamentary Conferences, including the 93rd Inter-Parliamentary Conference in Madrid in March-April 1995, the 95th Inter-Parliamentary Conference in Istanbul in April 1996 and the Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference in Colombo in October 1995.

Shri Mishra has keen interest in reading, writing, music and sports. Widely travelled in India and abroad, he has visited Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Canada, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Guinea, Hong Kong, Ireland, Japan, Malaysia, Nepal, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Spain, Thailand, Turkey, UK, USA and Yugoslavia.

PRIVILEGE ISSUES

LOK SABHA

Notice to the Speaker, Lok Sabha, from the High Court of Delhi, in connection with the Civil Writ Petition No. 1569/95: On 28 November 1995, the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil observed in the House as follows:

> I have to inform the House that on 2 November 1995, a notice was received from the Registrar, Delhi High Court requiring me to show cause as to why *rule nisi* be not issued in connection with the Civil Writ Petition No. 1569/95 under Articles 226 & 227 of the Constitution of India praying *inter alia* for declaring constitution of the committee under section 5(2) of the Press Council Act as *ultra vires.*
>
> As per well established practice and convention of the House, I decided not to respond to the notice. The Minister of State in the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs was requested to take such action as he might deem fit to apprise the High Court of Delhi of the correct constitutional position and the well established conventions of the House.

HIMACHAL PRADESH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Alleged misreporting of the proceedings of the House by a newspaper: On 31 March 1994, Shri Yogendra Chandra, a member, gave notice of a question of privilege against the English daily *Tribune* on the ground that the news item published in its issue on 31 March 1994 under the caption "H.P. drops claim on Chandigarh" was misrepresentation of the proceedings of the House of the previous day.

In his notice of question of privilege, Shri Chandra *inter alia* stated that the Himachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly, in its sitting held on 25 March 1994, had passed a Resolution, urging the Union Government to give Himachal Pradesh share in all sectors as provided in the Punjab Re-organisation Act, 1966, which included the claim of Himachal Pradesh on Chandigarh as well. However, the *Tribune* had wilfully misrepresented the proceedings of the House in reply to a Starred Question No. 731 dated 30 March 1994 tabled by Shri Viplove Thakur. The reply of the Chief Minister had nowhere said that the Himachal Pradesh Government had dropped its claim on Chandigarh; rather in para(a) it had been clearly stated that '....it is in this background that Himachal Pradesh has also claimed its share in the Union territory of Chandigarh'.

The member alleged that such misrepresentation of the proceedings of the House by the newspaper amounted to a breach of privilege and contempt of the House and requested that appropriate action be taken against the Editor of the newspaper.

On 4 April 1994, the matter was raised in the House. The Speaker, with the approval of the House, referred the matter to the Committee of Privileges for examination, investigation and report.

The Committee of Privileges examined the written comments/ explanation of the Principal Correspondent and the Editor of the *Tribune* and consulted all other relevant documents. The Committee, in their First Report, *inter alia* expressed their satisfaction with regard to the explanation of the Principal Correspondent and the Editor of the *Tribune* in the matter and their prompt publication of the correct version of the proceedings of the House in the 1 April 1994 issue of the *Tribune* under the caption "Claim on Chandigarh not dropped'. The Committee felt that since the correct version of the proceedings of the House had been published in the newspaper *suo motu* and that the explanations of the Principal Correspondent and the Editor of the newspaper were sufficient in the circumstances of the case, there was no necessity to take any oral evidence in the matter.

The Committee opined that undoubtedly the misrepresentation of the proceedings of the House was a breach of privilege and contempt of the House; yet the intention and circumstances with motive behind the reporting were the main considerations for deciding all such cases. The Committee felt that in the instant case, though *prima facie* a case of breach of privilege and contempt of the House was made out, the prompt action of the newspaper in rectifying their mistake by *suo motu* publishing the correct version of the proceedings of the House and thereafter tendering unconditional apologies, were sufficient proof that whatever happened was in good faith and due to a communication gap on the part of the Principal Correspondent with no *mala fide* intention.

In view of the foregoing circumstances, the Committee recommended that the House might, in its wisdom, ignore the issue as a human error which was neither intentional nor deliberate and the matter might not be pursued further.

No further action was taken by the House in the matter.

MADHYA PRADESH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Alleged misbehaviour with a member by a Government official: On 19 December 1991, Shri Rameshwar Akhand, a member, gave notice of a question of privilege against Shri R.K. Goyal, the officer-in-charge of the Singhasth Fair, Ujjain, for allegedly misbehaving with him.

The notice of question of privilege given by the member *inter alia* said that in connection with the ensuing Singhasth Fair, members, as

representatives of the people, had been assigned different responsibilities to be performed by them in various Committees formed for making preparations for the Fair. He himself had been nominated the Convener of the Panchkoshi Committees. He had convened a meeting of the Panchkoshi Committees in which Shri R.K. Goyal had been invited. Shri Goyal, however, did not attend the meeting. During the said meeting, members expressed doubts about the arrangements for the Panchkoshi Yatra. In this connection, the member tried to hold discussions with Shri Goyal on 2 September 1991, at the Rest House, Ujjain but despite repeated pleas, he evaded the discussion. Subsequently, on 5 September 1991, when the member was about to leave the Rest House, Shri Goyal accosted him and enquired about the proposed discussion. He apprised Shri Goyal about the dissatisfaction expressed by the members at the meeting of the Committees regarding arrangements for the Panchkoshi Yatra, particularly construction of roads, etc. and enquired from him about the progress in the matter. He also asked Shri Goyal to indicate his convenience so that the next meeting might be fixed accordingly to enable him to be personally present and explain the position to the members.

At this, Shri Goyal lost his temper and said at the top of his voice: "You have no right to discuss this matter with me; you are not my officer; I will not give any information to you. Do not invite me to the meetings of the Committee in future". The member then calmly tried to impress upon Shri Goyal that since the arrangements for the Singhasth Fair were timebound, it would be in the fitness of things that he being the officer-in-charge of the Fair apprised the members personally. Despite this, Shri Goyal continued to speak in an unrestrained and aggressive manner. Shri Babu Lal Jain, Minister, and Shri Uday Pratap Pandya, MLA, and some other party colleagues who were present there, tried to pacify Shri Goyal but he continued to speak in the same unrestrained manner.

The member alleged that such misbehaviour by a responsible Government officer amounted to a breach of privilege and contempt of the House.

On 25 February 1992, the Speaker referred the matter to the Committee of Privileges for examination, investigation and report.

The Committee of Privileges examined Shri R.K. Goyal in person and considered his written comments and those of Shri Babu Lal Jain, Minister who was present at the time when the alleged incident of misbehaviour took place, and also consulted all other relevant documents. The Committee, in their Fifth Report, reported *inter alia* that Shri Goyal, in his written explanation, stated that on 5 September 1991, when he was standing in the compound of the Rest House, Shri Akhand came there in his jeep and wanted to know as to when the proposal approved by the Committee for construction of roads would be sanctioned. Shri Goyal informed the member that a final reply could be given only after the

administrative approval. The member was, however, not satisfied and was demanding a specific date. Shri Goyal categorically denied the allegation that he said to the member: "You have no right to discuss this matter with me; you are not my officer; I will not give any information to you. Do not invite me to the meetings of the Committee in future". Shri Goyal also stated before the Committee that he had no intention to offend the dignity of, or to show disrespect to, the member. He also expressed regret, if the member had felt offended or hurt by his behaviour.

The Committee deliberated upon the issue whether Shri Rameshwar Akhand, while participating in the Singhasth Fair Committees, was acting in his capacity as a member of the Madhya Pradesh Vidhan Sabha. Were the parliamentary privileges and immunities available to him as a member of the Committee? The Committee studied the precedents available on this point in the Lok Sabha and other Legislative Assemblies. The Committee felt that parliamentary privileges were available to members to enable them to perform their parliamentary duties without any let or hindrance. The Committee were of the view that in the instant case, Shri Rameshwar Akhand had been acting as the Convenor of the Committee, in his capacity of a social/political worker and not of a member of the Vidhan Sabha. Under these circumstances, protection of privileges as a member was not available to him.

The Singhasth Fair Committees had been constituted under the provisions of the Madhya Bharat Act, 1955 and there was no provision in the Act for nominating a member of the Vidhan Sabha on the Committees. The member had not been nominated the Convenor of the Committees in his capacity as a member of the House. As such, he was not discharging any of his parliamentary duties at the relevant time. No question of privilege was, therefore, involved as the alleged incident did not relate to the parliamentary duties of the member.

The Committee, after perusal of the facts placed before it, however, noted with concern that there were heated exchanges between the member and Shri Goyal and Shri Goyal did use some harsh words while addressing the member. The Committee were constrained to state that Shri Goyal being a senior official of the State Government should have exercised more restraint while dealing with a member of the State Legislature.

The Committee were of the opinion that since the member was not performing any of his parliamentary duties at the time of the alleged incident of misbehaviour, no question of privilege was involved in the matter. The behaviour of Shri Goyal with the member could not also be termed as decent and polite. However, in view of the unconditional apology tendered by Shri Goyal in the matter, the Committee recommended that the matter might not be pursued further.

No further action was taken by the House in the matter.

7

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

LOK SABHA

To go on hunger strike in the precincts of the Parliament House Estate is not permissible: On 29 November 1995, Shri Bhogendra Jha, a member, submitted that he would go on hunger strike from 30 November 1995 to register his protest against the delay in completion of work on the Samastipur-Darbhanga railway line despite the Government assurances. The Speaker, thereupon, observed:

> You may go on hunger strike, if you want to; I have no objection. But you will not go on hunger strike in the premises of the Parliament.

Adjournment Motion inadmissible as the matter sought to be raised was not very urgent and exceptional in nature : On 28 November 1995, the Leader of the Opposition, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee submitted that his notice of Adjournment Motion regarding failure of the Government to create proper conditions in Jammu and Kashmir to enable the Election Commission to hold elections in the State may be admitted. Several members from other parties and groups also made submissions on the issue. Thereafter, the Speaker, observed:

> Certainly, it is a matter of public importance; certainly, it is a matter which needs discussion by the House. But then, in what form - that has to be decided...we cannot look upon an Adjournment Motion as a normal device for raising discussions on any important matter. It is not a normal device. This is an exceptional device...
>
> Wether we should discuss it by setting aside the matter which is given in agenda or not, we shall have to decide. While deciding that issue, we shall have to decide what happens if we do not discuss it today. The matter of urgency has to be taken into consideration...
>
> If you want to criticise the Government, you can do it while discussing the resolution (extending the President's rule in the State for a further period of six months with effect from 18 January 1996). If that kind of notice cannot be immediately admitted and discussed, in that case Adjournment Motion will be taken, otherwise not.

The Speaker further observed:

> I would respect and I think all members would respect the feeling behind this matter, yet it need not be discussed as an Adjournment Motion.

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PARLIAMENTARY AND CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

(1 October to 31 December 1995)

Events covered in this Feature are based on reports appearing in the daily newspapers and, as such, the Lok Sabha Secretariat does not accept any responsibility for their accuracy, authenticity or veracity.

—Editor

INDIA

DEVELOPMENTS AT THE UNION

Winter Session of Parliament : The Fifteenth Session of the Tenth Lok Sabha commenced on 27 November 1995 and adjourned *sine die* on 22 December 1995. The One Hundred and Seventy-fifth Session of the Rajya Sabha also commenced on 27 November 1995 and was adjourned *sine die* on 22 December 1995. The Rajya Sabha was prorogued by the President of India on 29 December 1995 and the Lok Sabha on 2 January 1996.

Death of members : The BJP member of the Lok Sabha representing the Unnao constituency in Uttar Pradesh, Shri Chottey Lal, passed away on 15 November 1995.

The Janata Dal member of the Rajya Sabha from Bihar, Shri Shankar Dayal Singh and the Congress (I) member from Andhra Pradesh, Shri Pragada Kotaiah passed away on 26 November 1995.

On 1 December 1995, the Congress (I) member of the Lok Sabha representing the Ongole constituency in Andhra Pradesh, Shri Magunta Subbarama Reddy was assassinated.

Shri B.K. Gudadinni, the Congress (I) member representing the Bijapur Lok Sabha constituency in Karnataka, passed away on 1 December 1995.

The Congress (I) member of the Lok Sabha, representing the Ichalkaranji constituency in Maharashtra, Shri Rajaram Shankarrao Mane passed away on 4 December 1995.

Death of Minister : The Union Minister without portfolio and Congress (I) member of the Rajya Sabha from Haryana, Shri Dinesh Singh passed away on 30 November 1995.

Resignation of Minister: The Minister without portfolio, Shri Jaffer Sharief resigned from the Union Cabinet on 22 November 1995.

Developments in the Samata Party: On 12 November 1995, Shri Nitish Kumar was suspended from the Samata Party for attending the BJP national convention in violation of the party's directive. On 19 November 1995, the Samata Party Parliamentary Group Leader Shri Chandrajeet Yadav suspended the Samata Party President Shri George Fernandes from the Parliamentary Group. Later, Shri Syed Shahabuddin assumed charge as the acting President of the Party. On 20 November 1995, Shri George Fernandes expelled Shri Syed Shahabuddin and Shri Chandrajeet Yadav from the primary membership of the party.

AROUND THE STATES

ANDHRA PRADESH

Political developments: On 2 October 1995, Shri B. Janardhan, MLA, who had been supporting the Chief Minister, Shri N. Chandrababu Naidu, rejoined the Telugu Desam led by Shri N.T. Rama Rao.

On 6 October 1995, Shri Rama Rao expelled the Speaker of the State Legislative Assembly, Shri Y. Ramakrishnudu from the Telugu Desam for anti-party activities.

On 10 October 1995, Shri D. Venkateswara Rao, MP and 16 MLAs, who had sided with Shri Chandrababu Naidu, rejoined the Telugu Desam led by Shri Rama Rao.

Expansion of Cabinet: On 8 October 1995, the State Cabinet was expanded with the induction of the following : Sarvashri Bashiruddin Babu Khan, S. Devaiah, G. Hanumantha Rao, N. Janardhan Reddy, K. Jayaram, T. Nageswara Rao, M. Satyanarayana, K. Shivaprasad Rao, S.V. Subba, B. Veera Reddy and S. Venugopalachari (all Cabinet Ministers) and B. Durgaprasad Rao, L. Ramana, T. Ramesh Reddy, E. Seetharamamma and T. Srinivas Yadav (all Ministers of State).

BIHAR

Change of party affiliation: On 30 October 1995, Shri Taslimuddin, MLA and Shri Muzaffar Hussain, MLA, belonging to the Samajwadi Party, joined the Janata Dal.

On 11 November 1995, Shri Ram Swaroop Paswan, MLA and Shri Vishnu Prasad Kushwaha, MLA, belonging to the Samata Party, joined the Janata Dal.

On 21 December 1995, the JMM (M) MLA, Shri Saba Ahmad and the Bihar People's Party MLA, Shri Vijay Mandal joined the Janata Dal.

GUJARAT

Political developments : On 7 October 1995, the Chief Minister, Shri Keshubhai Patel won a vote of confidence in the State Legislative Assembly.

On 8 October 1995, Shri Keshubhai Patel stepped down as the Leader of the BJP Legislature Party. The BJP revoked the expulsion of Shri Shankarsinh Vaghela, MP from the Party.

On 16 October 1995, Shri Suresh Mehta who was elected as the new Leader of the BJP Legislature Party, was sworn in as the Chief Minister.

The State Cabinet was expanded on 4 November 1995. The Ministers and their portfolios are as under : Shri Suresh Mehta (Chief Minister) : *Home (excluding Jail), Administration, Planning, Industrial and Energy Policy, Ports, Petrochemicals and other Portfolios not allocated to any Minister.*

Cabinet Ministers : Sarvashri Ashokbhai C. Bhatt : *Revenue (excluding Scarcity Relief) and Employment;* Vajubhai Vala : *Finance and Energy;* Nalinbhai K. Bhatt : *Education, including Technical Education;* Bhupendrasinh M. Chudasama : *Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Rural Development, Environment and Mines;* Arvindbhai T. Patel : *Cooperation and Rural Housing;* Dilipbhai R. Parikh : *Industry, Printing and Stationery, excluding Cottage Industry and Mines;* Parshottambhai K. Rupala : *Water Resources and Water Supply;* C.K. Raulji : *Transport;* Jayanarayanbhai L.N. Vyas : *Narmada Development;* Nitinbhai R. Patel : *Roads and Buildings;* Atmarambhai M. Patel : *Panchayats, excluding Rural Housing;* and Indravijaysinh K. Jadeja : *Youth Services, Cultural Activities and Sports.*

Ministers of State : Sarvashri Mahendrabhai S. Trivedi : *Home, excluding Jails; Cottage Industries (Independent Charge) and Urban Housing;* Jaspal Singh : *Food and Civil Supplies, Prohibition and Excise (Independent Charge);* Virendrasinh D. Zala : *Law and Judiciary (Independent Charge); and Tourism (Independent Charge);* Ranjitsinh J. Zala : *Scarcity Relief (Independent Charge) and Panchayats;* Kantibhai D. Kachoria : *Labour (Independent Charge); Urban Development and Jails;* Khumansinh K. Vanshla : *Revenue, excluding Scarcity Relief;* Raghavji H. Patel : *Rural Housing* : Jasabhai B. Barad : *Health and Family Welfare;* Umeshbhai Rajyaguru : Ports, Fisheries (Independent Charge); Atmarambhai M. Parmar : *Social Welfare, including Harijan Welfare (Independent Charge); Social Defence (Independent Charge);* Bharatbhai Barot : *Welfare of Socially and Educationally Backward Classes (Independent Charge);* Anilbhai Joshira : *Tribal Development;* and Vitthalbhai H. Radadia : *Sports, Youth Services.*

Deputy Ministers : Sarvashri Babubhai M. Gada : *Scarcity Relief, Water Supply and Labour and Employment;* Savjibhai J. Korat : *Roads and Buildings and Panchayats;* Vipulbhai M. Chaudhari : *Transport and Forests;* Ramabhai I. Vora : *Energy, Petrochemicals and Cooperatives;* Mansinh K. Chauhan : *Education, excluding Technical Education;* Dilipbhai M. Patel : *Narmada Development and Water Resources;* Hemantbhai C. Chhapatwala : *Finance, Industry and Environment;* Mulubhai H. Bera : *Social Welfare, including Harijan Welfare, Social Defence and Prohibition and Excise;* Mansukhbahi D. Vasava : *Cottage Industries and Fisheries;* Karsanbhai B. Patel : *Welfare of Backward Classes;* Madhubhai S. Thakor : *Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Rural Development;* and Maganbhai A. Kasundra : *Food and Civil Supplies.*

Minister divested of Independent Charge : On 26 December 1995, the Chief Minister, Shri Suresh Mehta divested the Minister of State for Food and Civil Supplies and Prohibition and Excise, Shri Jaspal Singh of his Independent Charge of these portfolios. The additional charge of Food and Civil Supplies was given to the Minister of Narmada Development, Shri Jayanarayanbhai L.N. Vyas and that of Prohibition and Excise to the Minister of Youth Services, Cultural Activities and Sports, Shri Indravijaysinh K. Jadeja.

Shri Jaspal Singh would, however, continue to remain the Minister of State for both the Departments.

HARYANA

Resignation of members : On 1 November 1995, the Haryana Vikas Party announced the resignation of 16 of its members from the State Legislative Assembly in protest against the alleged failure of the Bhajan Lal Government in safeguarding the interests of the State. The resignations were accepted by the Speaker on 2 November 1995.

HIMACHAL PRADESH

Expansion of Cabinet : On 18 October 1995, the State Cabinet was expanded. Shri Ram Lal Thakur and Maj. Vijay Singh Mankotia were inducted as Cabinet Ministers. Shri Vidya Dhar, who was a Minister of State, was elevated to the Cabinet rank. Sarvashri Satya Prakash Thakur, Sujan Singh Pathania, Kamal Singh Pathania, Kuldeep Kumar, Raghu Raj V. Thakur, P. Rai and Asha Kumari were sworn in as Ministers of State.

Parliamentary Secretaries : On 20 October 1995, Shri Brij Butail was appointed the Chief Parliamentary Secretary and Sarvashri Kashmir Singh, Harsh Mahajan, Rattan Singh and Anita Verma were appointed Parliamentary Secretaries.

New Governor : Smt. Sheila Kaul was sworn in as the new Governor of Himachal Pradesh on 17 November 1995.

JAMMU AND KASHMIR

Political developments : On 4 November 1995, the Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao offered a political package to the State on the basis of the Indira Gandhi-Sheikh Abdulla accord of 1975. The Prime Minister assured that art. 370 of the Constitution would not be abrogated. The Centre had no objection on the use of the nomenclatures *Wazir-e-Azam* for the Chief Minister and *Sadar-e-Riyasat* for the Governor if the State Legislature so desired. A package was being worked out to ensure the time-bound revival of the State's economy. Measures had been taken to ensure the peaceful conduct of elections, the dates of which were to be announced by the Election Commission.

On 10 November 1995, the Election Commission ruled out the possibility of any elections in the State till the conditions were conducive for a free and fair poll.

KARNATAKA

Resignation of Minister : On 3 December 1995, the Minister of Kannada and Culture, Smt. B.T. Lalitha Naik resigned from the Council of Ministers.

KERALA

Split in Kerala Congress (B) : On 1 December 1995, the Kerala Congress (B) led by Shri R. Balakrishna Pillai formally split with one of its two MLAs, Shri Joseph M. Puthussery holding a meeting of his supporters and electing Shri O.V. Lukose as the Chairman.

MADHYA PRADESH

Expansion of Cabinet : On 25 December 1995, the State Cabinet was expanded with the induction of four Cabinet Ministers and eleven Ministers of State. Besides, twelve Ministers of State were elevated to the Cabinet rank.

The newly-inducted Cabinet Ministers are : Sarvashri Balendu Shukla, Jaswant Singh, Dhanesh Kumar Patila and Yadvendra Singh. The Ministers of State are : Satyanarayan Sharma, Jalam Singh Patel, Ravindra Choubey, Akhand Yadav, Madhav Singh Dhurve, Pushpraj Singh, Ganpat Singh, Likhiram Kanware, Vanshmani Prasad Verma, Bapusingh Damore and Nand Kumar Patel.

The Ministers of State who were elevated to the Cabinet rank are : Sarvashri Chandandas Mahant, Rajendra Kumar Singh, Prem Narayan Thakur, Narmada Prasad Prajapati, Shiv Netam, Premsai Singh, Satyadev Katare, Mukesh Nayak, Ratnesh Solomon, Jageshwar Sahu, Bisahulal Singh and Urmila Singh.

MAHARASHTRA

Vote of confidence passed : On 7 December 1995, the Manohar Joshi Ministry won a vote of confidence in the State Legislative Assembly.

MANIPUR

Defeat of no-confidence motion : On 23 November 1995, the State Legislative Assembly rejected a no-confidence motion against the Rishang Keishing Ministry by 37 votes to 16.

PUNJAB

Expansion of Cabinet : On 14 October 1995, the State Cabinet was expanded with the induction of the following : Sarvashri Gurchet Singh Bhuker and Surjit Kaur Kalkat (both Cabinet Ministers); Avtar Henery, Jasjit Singh Randhawa, Brij Bhupender Singh, Bhagwan Dass Arora, Harnek Singh Ghauran, Raghunath Sahai Puri and Sardul Singh (all Ministers of State); and Harminder Singh Jassi Sardul Singh (Deputy Minister).

On 18 October 1995, Shri Maninder Singh Bitta was inducted into the Council of Ministers as a Cabinet Minister.

TAMIL NADU

Death of MLA : Shri S. Selvaraj, MLA, belonging to the MDMK, passed away on 2 October 1995.

TRIPURA

New Speaker/Deputy Speaker : On 12 October 1995, Shri Jitendra Sarkar and Shri Sunil Chaudhuri were elected the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker, respectively, of the State Legislative Assembly.

UTTAR PRADESH

Political developments : On 17 October 1995, the Chief Minister Kumari Mayawati resigned from office following the withdrawal of support by the BJP. On 18 October 1995, the State was placed under the President's rule and the Legislative Assembly kept under suspended animation. The Legislative Assembly was dissolved on 27 October 1995.

DEVELOPMENTS ABROAD

ALGERIA

Election results : In the presidential elections held on 17 November 1995, the President, Mr. Liamine Zeroual was returned to office securing 61.37 per cent of the votes.

BANGLADESH

Political developments: On 24 November 1995, the President, Mr. Abdur Rahman Biswas dissolved the Parliament on the advice of the Prime Minister, Begum Khaleda Zia paving the way for general elections.

CANADA

Referendum results: On 31 October 1995, in a Referendum in Quebec, 50.6 per cent of the 4.65 million votes cast, said 'no' to separation from Canada while 49.4 per cent voted in favour.

ECUADOR

Resignation of Vice-President: On 12 October 1995, the Vice-President, Mr. Alberto Dahik resigned from office after the Supreme Court ruled that there was enough evidence to arrest him on charges of embezzlement.

GEORGIA

President sworn in: Mr. Eduard Shevardnadze was sworn in as the President of Georgia on 26 November 1995.

ISRAEL

Assassination of Prime Minister: On 4 November 1995, the Prime Minister, Mr. Yitzhak Rabin was assassinated by a right-wing extremist. The Foreign Minister, Mr. Shimon Peres was sworn in as the Interim Prime Minister.

ITALY

Defeat of no-confidence motion: On 27 October 1995, the Prime Minister, Mr. Lamberto Dini survived a no-confidence motion in Parliament with 310 Deputies voting against it while 291 favoured the motion.

KYRGYZSTAN

Presidential elections: On 24 December 1995, the incumbent President, Mr. Askar Akayev was re-elected securing 75 per cent of the votes cast.

MAURITIUS

New Prime Minister: On 23 December 1995, Mr. Navin Ramgoolam of the Labour Party was chosen to head the Labour Party Government which defeated the ruling front headed by Sir Anerood Jugnauth.

NEPAL

Expansion of Cabinet: On 23 December 1995, the Prime Minister, Mr. Sher Bahadur Deuba expanded his Cabinet with the induction of 18 new Ministers.

POLAND

Presidential elections : On 28 November 1995, Mr. Aleksander Kwasniewski was declared elected the President of Poland, defeating the incumbent Mr. Lech Walesa.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

New Prime Minister : On 11 November 1995, Mr. Basdeo Pandey of the United National Congress was chosen to be the new Prime Minister.

TURKEY

Political developments : The Prime Minister, Ms. Tansu Ciller resigned from office on 15 October 1995 following the defeat of a confidence motion in Parliament. On 18 October 1995, Ms. Ciller, whose True Path Party entered into an alliance with the Republican People's Party, was asked by the President, Mr. Suleiman Demirel to form the new Government.

SESSIONAL REVIEW

LOK SABHA

The Fifteenth Session of the Tenth Lok Sabha, which commenced on 27 November 1995, was adjourned *sine die* on 22 December 1995. The House was prorogued by the President on 2 January 1996.

A brief resume of some of the important discussions held and other business transacted during the period is given below:

A. DISCUSSIONS/STATEMENTS/RESOLUTIONS

Economic situation in the country: Raising a discussion under Rule 193 on the subject in the House on 7 December 1995, Shri Jaswant Singh said that in 1991, the ruling party's manifesto had claimed that they would roll back the prices within 100 days to the level of 1989. However, towards the end of 1995, the prices of certain items had gone up by as much as 200 to 300 per cent of what they were in 1991. The lack of control on price rise was one aspect of the management of the economy in which we needed to do more. Employment generation, both in the manufacturing sector and the agricultural sector, was another area of worry. The issue of internal and external debts was also a matter of concern. In spite of a good monsoon, agricultural production had grown by only 1.8 per cent. The slide in the value of the rupee demonstrated the fragility of the currency, uncertainty about our balance of payments and bad management on the part of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and others. The situation filled us with grave disquiet because of the internal debt, the external debt, the mounting debt service ratio, the declining rupee and the decline in the foreign exchange inputs. The Government was unanswering, unaccountable and uncaring.

Participating in the discussion*, Shri P.G. Narayanan said that while implementing the new economic policy, steps should be taken to generate more employment and increase the purchasing power. The prices of essential commodities had been skyrocketing for the past one year and the Government had miserably failed in tackling the situation. The Finance Minister had announced rebate on various

*Others who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri Anadi Charan Das, Mohan Singh (Deoria), Bhogendra Jha, P.R. Kumaramangalam, K.P. Reddaiah Yadav, Mohan Rawale, Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee, Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat, Prof. Susanta Chakraborty, Dr. Mumtaz Ansari and Smt. Suseela Gopalan

items used by the common man but the manufacturers, after enjoying the rebate, had not passed on the benefit to the people. A high level Parliamentary Committee should be constituted to probe the matter. Economic reforms should continue because they had given a new thrust to the economy. At the same time, the defects in implementing the reforms should be rectified.

Taking part in the discussion, Shri Sobhanadreeswara Rao Vadde said that the external and internal debt burden had been increasing. Exports were increasing by around 15 per cent while imports were increasing at the rate of around 20 per cent. In the name of liberalisation, multinational companies were being allowed to enter the country. We should give top priority to agriculture, second priority to rural, small and medium industries and the next priority to top industries.

Replying to the discussion, the Minister of Finance, Dr. Manmohan Singh said that considerable and significant progress had been made in tackling the basic maladies of our economy. We had put a collapsing economy back on the rails and if we persisted in that path in the years that were to follow, we would be able to tackle more effectively than ever before the task of removal of poverty, unemployment and improving the quality of life of the people. The basic condition for achieving or improving the quality of life was to create more jobs which could come only out of higher growth. As regards debt management, we had deliberately adopted a gradualistic strategy of strengthening the export base. During the current year, despite massive reductions in import duties, our import revenues had done much better than was projected in the budget. The same was true of personal income tax and corporate tax.

Insofar as controlling expenditure was concerned, the Finance Minister said that we needed subsidies in support of programmes to help the weaker sections of the society. Over a period of time, we must revitalise the public sector so that it generated more resources. A lasting solution to the problem of fiscal deficit was to broadbase the tax system. The reform of the tax system would yield ample dividends by way of revenue buoyancy. The only way the country could become self-reliant was by realising its full developmental potential and eliminating its dependence on artificial props like aid, etc. Liberalisation was not a licence to the manufacturers and producers to work against the public interest nor was it a licence to exploit the consumers. The deregulation by way of removal of the industrial licensing system was a step in the direction of removing corruption. We had also thrown open the infrastructure sector to participation by the private sector. The fact that we had saved a collapsing economy and converted it into

a healthy economy was a tribute to our farmers, workers and entrepreneurs, the Finance Minister added.

Statement on Jammu and Kashmir: Making a Statement in the House on 28 November 1995, the Minister of Home Affairs, Shri S.B. Chavan said that the State of Jammu and Kashmir had to be brought under President's Rule on 18 July 1990 in the wake of largescale violence and terrorism unleashed in the State from across the border, which had led to a breakdown of the normal constitutional and administrative machinery there.

The steadfast efforts of the security forces, and increasingly of the local law and order machinery, had enabled us to very substantially contain the so-called "militancy", notwithstanding the desperate efforts of the extremist elements, inspired from across the border, to keep violence at a high level and keep the situation in ferment. Sizeable sections of the local militants had seen through the game of Pakistan and the futility of continuing violent activities upon their own people. During the current year alone, over 500 militants had surrendered before the authorities. Those aspects of the situation were also clearly visible in the fact that Pakistan was increasingly resorting to infiltration of its own and other foreign nationals into the State to try and take direct control of the so-called "insurgency", since the local militancy was clearly on the wane. Sneak attacks against soft targets, abduction and kidnappings, explosions in market places and hit and run attacks by random firing, which did take place even now were in the nature of acts of desperation by the terrorists who were under severe pressure from the security forces, and who were losing ground. The security forces had clearly gained the upper hand. There was also a perceptible change in the attitude of the people and discontent with the activities of the militants. Their morale was high and they were displaying increasing boldness to stand up to the militants.

Therefore, while the Government did not underestimate the violence that still continued to be perpetrated, the totality of the situation constituted a sign that the time was ripe for all other pro-peace forces and processes to be fully geared and activated to finally isolate the terrorist and lawless elements and forces. The various initiatives taken and efforts made by the Government over a broad spectrum had already helped to reactivate the pro-peace forces to a considerable extent. In the Government's view it was time now to inject into the system the political input in a determined manner.

Particularly during the last one year, we had made focussed efforts to reactivate and accelerate the economic and developmental activity in the State. Not only had the various Central Schemes

for poverty alleviation, employment generation, development of women and children, and improving the infrastructure at the village level been intensified, but care was also taken to fully protect the Annual Development Plan of the State which was of the order of Rs. 1,050 crore. Special attention had been given to areas which affected the people vitally such as timely and adequate supply of essential commodities and the health services. Much, of course, still remained to be done, but these initiatives had definitely helped to create additional employment and job opportunities, improvement in the quality of life of the people and, most importantly, encouraging among the people, a gradual, but perceptible, movement away from the psyche imposed by the militants and terrorists, towards the mainstream of their normal life and activities.

Special efforts had also been made during the last one year or two to strengthen the local civil administration, and restore its normal functioning and activities, as also the confidence of the people in it. These efforts had definitely yielded positive results though, perhaps, not to the desired extent. Together with the intensification of economic and developmental activity, they had also helped to bridge the gap between the administration and the people that had resulted from a vacuum created for some time at the ground level by the activities of the terrorists.

Mechanisms had been established to regularly review the cases of persons who were apprehended in connection with terrorist violence. These reviews had enabled the release, on a continuing basis, of a large number of persons who might have been marginal cases. Conscious attempts had been made to sensitize the security force personnel against possible over-reaction or actions which might be perceived as excesses, and firm action was being taken wherever any delinquencies were proved. Transparency in the form of facility of access to the State for outsiders had been considerably increased. Apart from others, the Human Rights Commissioner of the UN had visited the State and now the ICRC teams were visiting detenues under a Memorandum of Understanding signed with them earlier this year.

All these measures had led to a significant change in the situation. It had also been encouraging to note that during the last few months there had been visible activation of the political forces in the State. A large number of politicians who had been virtually forced out of the Valley during the peak period of terrorism, had returned to Srinagar and commenced efforts towards reactivation of their parties and cadres. Since August 1995, a number of public meetings were also held by various political leaders and parties in different parts of the Valley, which would have been virtually unthinkable even

as late as a year ago. During the recent months, for the first time after five years, public representatives had also started attending the meetings of the District Development Board, etc.

Consistent with our policy that the problem in Jammu and Kashmir had to be resolved by peaceful means, Government had reiterated its openness and willingness for dialogue and discussions with individuals and groups so that ways for the restoration of peace and normaicy could be explored and steps taken jointly towards achieving this end. As part of this, we had consultations from time to time with leaders of political parties both at the national level and from the State, in which the demands voiced and problems pointed out by various sections of the people had also been discussed.

After taking into account the views and recommendations of the State Government and other concerned agencies, and careful consideration and assessment of the various facets of the situation as also the views emerging from the discussions and consultations with political parties at different levels, the Government took a decision earlier this month that it would be timely to go in for the conduct of elections in the State in December 1995.

The Prime Minister had made an important statement on 4 November 1995 stating the concern of the nation as a whole for the people of Jammu and Kashmir, and expressing our aim and determination to restore peace and democracy to that State which had been ravaged by terrorism, sponsored from across the border, for the last six years. The Prime Minister had also appealed to all sections of the people of the State that they should firmly stand up to the terrorists and help in the process of bringing about peace and their own representative Government. The statement had the components that Jammu and Kashmir was an integral part of India; art. 370 would not be abrogated; and autonomy of the State would be strengthened within the parameters of our Constitution, keeping in view the aspirations of the people, and with reference to all the regions of the State. The State was reassured that in case the State Government came up with any proposal to change any Central law made after 1953 on matters in the Concurrent List, the grant of assent to the Bill would be sympathetically considered. Regarding change of the nomenclature of the Chief Minister, if the State Legislature amended the State Constitution to provide for the title "Wazir-e-Azam", we would have no objection; similarly as regards "Sadar-e-Riyasat", the State Legislature might initiate action for amending the State Constitution.

On the question of financial package, it was stated that already 70 per cent of the funding of the entire expenditure of the State,

both developmental and non-developmental, came from the Centre; the entire nation would help to rebuild the economy of Kashmir and to provide employment opportunities to the Kashmiri youth; a time-bound revival of the State's economy was an urgent necessity; and, the Government would formulate further financial and developmental benefits for the State in due course.

After taking the whole situation into account, the Government was confident that elections could be held in the State. The Election Commission, however, took the view that the situation was not, as yet, conducive to the conduct of free and fair elections. A public interest petition had since been filed against the decision of the Election Commission which was *sub judice*. However, there was no change in the policy and the aim of the Government to restore the democratic process and institutions in the State at the earliest, and we would continue to strive to further consolidate the situation and reduce the room for doubts about the feasibility and viability of their objectivity to the extent realistically possible, the Home Minister added.

Statement on the price situation: Making a Statement in the House on 6 December 1995, the Minister of Finance, Dr. Manmohan Singh said that the Government had brought down the rate of inflation, as measured by the Wholesale Price Index (WPI), from a peak of nearly 17 per cent in August 1991 to around 7 per cent by April 1993. That slowdown was the result of the Government's macro-economic stabilisation policy as well as its supply management policies, especially in regard to key essential commodities. The inflationary pressures, however, resurfaced towards the end of 1993 mainly because of serious production shortfalls in key products such as sugar, cotton, jute and groundnut. The other contributory factors were sizeable increases in the minimum support prices accorded to farmers over the last four years for wheat, rice, sugarcane and oilseeds and the rapid growth in money supply the previous year. The year 1994-95 thus ended with the inflation rate at 10.4 per cent.

In the current financial year, the reduction of monetary growth and further management initiatives in respect of essential commodities had successfully reduced the annual rate of inflation, which was presently around 8 per cent. Since March 1995, the rise in the general price level had been about 4.7 per cent up to 11 November 1995 as compared to an increase of nearly 7 per cent in the corresponding period during the previous year. The increase in the prices of primary articles thus far in the present financial year had been under 6 per cent as compared to over 10 per cent in 1994-95.

To manage the price situation, the Government had deployed a judicious combination of macro-economic and supply management policies. The Centre's fiscal deficit which had risen to 6.7 per cent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 1994-95 (Revised Estimate) had been budgeted at a lower level of 5.5. per cent during the current year. A number of measures had been taken to successfully moderate the growth of money supply from an annual rate of 21.6 per cent at the beginning of the year to 14.2 per cent by mid-November 1995.

Special efforts had been made to contain prices of key essential commodities. The Public Distribution System (PDS) had been strengthened and supplies had been supplemented through imports wherever possible. The issue prices of rice and wheat had not been raised since February 1994. The Food Corporation of India (FCI) had continued to conduct open market sales of rice and wheat for the past two years. As a result, the wholesale price of wheat was actually one per cent below the level at the beginning of 1995-96. Import of vegetable edible oils had been kept on Open General License (OGL), with duty having been further reduced in March 1995 to 30 per cent. In addition, large quantities of palmolein oil had been imported at concessional duty for supply through the PDS. That had ensured that edible oil wholesale prices as of November 1995 were less than one per cent higher than at the beginning of the current financial year. Imports of sugar had also been kept on OGL (with zero duty) and there had been sizeable imports on Government account to augment PDS supplies. The allocation of levy sugar for PDS had been increased and the monthly releases of free sale of sugar had also been enhanced. The issue price of PDS sugar had been held constant since February 1994 despite two upward revisions in the sugarcane prices during this period. As a result, the wholesale price of sugar in November 1995 was less than 4 per cent higher than a year ago, although the general price index had increased by over 8 per cent during the period. The prices of certain other essential commodities such as kerosene, which were distributed through the PDS, had not been changed for two years. The import of pulses had also been retained on OGL and the duty was further reduced earlier this year to a nominal 5 per cent. However, the limited availability of international supplies of pulses had constrained the moderating effect of these policies on pulse prices, which continued to be a source of concern to the Government.

As part of its price management strategy, the Government had liberalised imports and in successive budgets, reduced rates of duty on excise and customs. The Government had in place a system of dearness allowances, which helped to protect a large proportion

of workers in the organised sector from the rigours of inflation. However, the overwhelming majority of India's labour force was deployed in the agriculture, retail trade and other unorganised sectors where the system of dearness allowance would not reach. To help these segments of the society cope with inflation, the Government had followed a two-pronged strategy of improving their access to essential commodities at reasonable prices through the strengthening of the PDS and enhancing the incomes earned by the workers and households in the unorganised sector through growth in employment opportunities, expansion of anti-poverty programmes and key social services of education and health as well as introduction of new programmes such as the Mid-day Meal Programme and the National Social Assistance Programme.

A special scheme to revamp the PDS - the RPDS - was introduced in June 1992 to serve the tribal, hilly, arid populations in 1,775 blocks located in backward and remote areas characterised by poor infrastructure. Additional quantities of about 4 million tonnes of foodgrains (rice and wheat) were now earmarked annually for allocation to the RPDS, over and above the normal allocations to the States. As of September 1995, more than 54,000 fair price shops in the RPDS areas had been brought under the door step delivery scheme as compared to only 11,000 fair price shops in 1992.

As a consequence of the rapid restoration of broad-based economic growth brought about by the Government's economic reform measures, the annual increase in total employment in the economy was estimated to have risen from about 3 million in 1991-92 to over 7 million in 1994-95. Expansion of gainful employment opportunities was the most effective way of alleviating poverty and protecting the weaker segments of society from increase in prices.

Furthermore, while it was true that there had been increase in the prices of goods purchased by the agricultural labour, there had also been substantial increases in agricultural wages. The all-India averages indicated that in the two more recent years for which we had data, *i.e.* 1992-93 and 1993-94, the average wages for the agricultural labour had increased more than the inflation experienced by the agriculture workers.

The only really effective way of protecting the workers and households in the unorganised sector from the scourge of inflation was to bring down the rate of inflation to even lower levels than prevailing at present. We had to recognize that to achieve that goal, we must work together to enhance fiscal discipline, contain monetary growth, further liberalise the import policy and strengthen the systems for targeting the availability of key essential commodities in favour of the weakest segments of our society. We must also

work to strengthen the consumer movement in the country and undertake all necessary measures to curb monopolistic practices, the Finance Minister added.

Statement on the stage of the proceedings before the Designated Court, Poonamallee and before the Justice Jain Commission of Inquiry: Making a Statement in the House on 7 December 1995, the Minister of State for Commerce, Shri P. Chidambaram reminded the House that during his intervention in the House on 25 August 1995 regarding the progress made in the investigations into the Rajiv Gandhi assassination case, he had shared with the House information on the stage of the proceedings in the case before the Designated Court-I, Poonamallee. He had stated then that in the trial before the Designated Court-I, 183 witnesses had been examined until that date. Since then, more witnesses had been examined and, as on 6 December 1995, 242 witnesses had been examined. Besides, 1,087 exhibits and 759 material objects had been marked in the trial.

The Minister said that concern had been expressed about the pace of the trial before the Designated Court. When the subject was assigned to him in May 1995, the prosecution had examined 134 witnesses in 182 court hearing days. That worked out to an average of 0.73 witnesses per day. Since then we had another 86 hearing days and the prosecution had examined an additional 108 witnesses. That worked out to an average of 1.25 witnesses per day. The Minister said that in his last intervention in the House on the subject on 25 August 1995, he had stated that he had laid down a very tight time table for the conclusion of the evidence on behalf of the prosecution and had expressed confidence that the evidence would be completed by December 1995. He had been assured by the Special Investigation Team (SIT) and the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) that they were doing everything possible, within the constraints of law, to complete the evidence on behalf of the prosecution according to the time table.

In the proceedings before the Justice Jain Commission of Inquiry (also looking into the Rajiv Gandhi assassination case), 103 sittings had been held so far. The Commission followed the procedure laid down in the regulations made by the Commission on that behalf. Documents required by the Commission had been produced by the various authorities and agencies of the Government. In some cases, however, the Government had claimed privilege while at the same time making it absolutely clear that the Government had no objection to the Commission perusing and examining the documents.

The Commission required the SIT/CBI to produce before the Commission the Investigation Records and Case Diaries pertaining to the criminal case now being tried by the Designated Court-I

and for that purpose directed the SIT/CBI to move an application before that Court. The Designated Court-I, by its order dated 27 July 1995, made under the TADA Act, 1987, declined to grant permission to produce the Investigation Records and Case Diaries before the Commission. The order had been placed before the Commission.

The Justice Verma Commission of Inquiry had been appointed by the Government on 27 May 1991 (to also look into certain aspects of the Rajiv Gandhi assassination case). The terms of reference of the Justice Verma Commission were reproduced in the Report of the Commission at pages (xiii) and (xiv). The Jain Commission required the Government to produce the file relating to the terms of reference of the Justice Verma Commission. According to the records of the Government, that file was sent on the instructions of the Home Minister, on 27 July 1991, to the then Private Secretary to the Prime Minister. The file was not returned to the Ministry of Home Affairs. When the Commission sought production of the file, the file could not be traced in the Prime Minister's Office (PMO). A special team of officers was constituted to search for the file. The team, with the assistance of other officers and staff, conducted a thorough search in all the offices connected with the PMO, the residence of the Prime Minister and the Ministry of Home Affairs. The Law Ministry also conducted a search. However, despite the best efforts, the file could not be traced. Subsequently, based on papers made available by the Law Ministry, and copies available in other files in the Ministry of Home Affairs, the material portions of the file were reconstructed and the reconstructed file was submitted to the Commission. An affidavit, sworn to by the Joint Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, Shri Shashi Prakash was also filed before the Commission on 5 October 1995, explaining the circumstances in which the original file could not be produced.

It was the Government's intention to ensure that the trial before the Designated Court-I proceeded without let or hindrance. It was also the Government's intention to extend full assistance to the Justice Jain Commission of Inquiry and enable the Commission to conclude the inquiry and submit its report.

Statutory Resolution regarding approval of the Proclamation issued by the President under art. 356 of the Constitution in relation to the State of Uttar Pradesh: Moving the Statutory Resolution on 28 November 1995, the Minister of Home Affairs, Shri S.B. Chavan said that in a report to the President of India on 17 October 1995, the Governor of Uttar Pradesh intimated that the BJP had withdrawn support to the Government of Kumari Mayawati, following which the Chief Minister had tendered her resignation to the Governor.

The Governor also stated that insofar as the formation of an alternative Government was concerned, the BJP with 176 seats and the Samajwadi Party with 126 seats in the Legislative Assembly had not staked any claim to form a Government. On that basis, the Governor reported that no party was in position to form a stable Government in Uttar Pradesh. He recommended recourse to art. 356(1) while keeping the Legislative Assembly in a state of suspended animation.

The Union Government was kept apprised by the Governor of Uttar Pradesh of the subsequent political developments in the State. The Union Government considered the reports of the Governor of Uttar Pradesh and decided that recommendations be made to the President to issue an Order dissolving the Legislative Assembly of Uttar Pradesh. The administrative machinery in Uttar Pradesh had lately been under considerable strain and implementation of development programmes was suffering. The State Administration was gradually limping back to normalcy under the President's Rule.

Participating in the discussion,* the Leader of the Opposition, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee said that when the BSP Government in Uttar Pradesh resigned, no other party had staked its claim to form the Government. The Governor had no option but to recommend the imposition of President's rule. The Governor, however, did not feel the need for dissolution of the Legislative Assembly. In fact, in his letter of 17 October 1995, the Governor had stated that he would seriously consider a proposal for forming an alternative Government. However, he dissolved the Legislative Assembly on 28 October 1995 because the ruling party at the Centre did not want that Uttar Pradesh be ruled by any other party. Shri Vajpayee demanded that election to the Legislative Assembly should be held along with the Lok Sabha elections.

Taking part in the discussion, the Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri Salman Khursheed said that there was no prosperity in Uttar Pradesh because the people were not educated and there were no employment opportunities. There was a great responsibility on the people of Uttar Pradesh, be it the issue of Ayodhya or combating terrorism or matters relating to development or the issue of Uttarakhand.

Supporting the Statutory Resolution, Shri Yaima Singh Yumnam suggested that elections to the Legislative Assembly should be held along with the Lok Sabha elections.

*Others who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri Hannan Mollah, Sharad Dighe, Vishwa Nath Shastri, Ram Sagar, Pramothes Mukherjee, Mohan Singh (Deoria), Rajnath Sonkar Shastri, Satya Deo Singh, Ajay Mukhopadhyay, Prof. (Dr.) S.P. Yadav and Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Bhuwan Chandra Khanduri

Replying to the discussion on 29 November 1995, the Minister of Home Affairs, Shri S.B. Chavan said that the way events were unfolding in Uttar Pradesh, there was hardly any option left to the Union Government but to take the intractable step of dissolution of the Legislative Assembly.

The Statutory Resolution was adopted.

B. LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

During the Session, the following Bills were passed by the Lok Sabha: The Depositories Bill, 1995 (6 December 1995); The Appropriation (No. 5) Bill, 1995 (6 December 1995); The Uttar Pradesh State Legislature (Delegation of Powers) Bill, 1995 (22 December 1995); the Appropriation (Railways) No.4 Bill, 1995 (22 December 1995); and the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Bill, 1995 (22 December 1995).

C. QUESTION HOUR

During the Session, in all, 13,375 notices of Questions (10,975 Starred, 2,382 Unstarred and 18 Short Notice Questions) were received. Out of these, 400 Questions were admitted as Starred and 4,202 Questions as Unstarred. 1 Starred Question was postponed and 1 Unstarred Question was deleted. Due to interruptions in the House on 7, 8, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 18, 19, 20, 21 and 22 December 1995 and due to the adjournment of the House immediately after obituary references on 27 and 30 November and 4 and 5 December 1995, Starred Questions were not called for oral answer. The Starred Questions listed for these days were treated as Unstarred and their answers, together with those of Unstarred Questions, were printed in the official report for those days.

Daily average of Questions: The average number of Questions orally answered on the floor of the House during the Session was 0.75. The maximum number of Starred Questions answered on a day was 5 on 28 November 1995 and the minimum number was 3 on 1 and 6 December 1995.

The average number of Questions in the Unstarred list came to 210 against the prescribed limit of 230, the minimum being 144 Questions on 12 December 1995 and the maximum being 234 on 20 December 1995.

Half-an-Hour Discussions: In all, 6 notices of Half-an-Hour Discussions were received during the Session but none was admitted for discussion.

D. OBITUARY REFERENCES

During the Session, references were made to the passing away of the Prime Minister of Israel, Mr. Yitzhak Rabin; the Chief Minister of Punjab, Sardar Beant Singh; the Union Minister without Portfolio, Shri Dinesh Singh; Sarvashri Chhotey Lal, Magunta Subbarama Reddy, B.K. Gudadinni and Rajaram Shankararrao Mane, all sittings members; Sardar Surjit Singn Majithia, member, Central Legislative Assembly and First to Third Lok Sabha; Shri Lakshmi Shankar Yadav, member, Provisional Parliament; and Sarvashri Maharaj Singh Bharti, Madan Pandey, S.N. Misra, Kumbha Ram Arya, P.V.G. Raju, Shankar Dayal Singh, Onkar Lal Bohra, Martand Singh, Lakhan Lal Kapoor, M.K. Krishnan, Biddika Satyanarayana, Digamber Singh Chaudhuri, R. Ramanathan Chettiar, Girdhari Lal Vyas and A.A. Rahim and Smt. Sumati Oraon, Smt. Sushila Ganesh Mavalankar and Smt. Vijaya Raje, all former members.

RAJYA SABHA

ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-FIFTH SESSION*

The Rajya Sabha met for its Hundred and Seventy-fifth Session on 27 November 1995 and adjourned *sine die* on 22 December 1995. The House was prorogued on 29 December 1995. A resume of some of the important discussions held and other business transacted during the Session is given below:

A. DISCUSSIONS

Situation in Jammu and Kashmir: Initiating a short duration discussion on the subject on 29 November 1995, the Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha, Shri Sikander Bakht said that terrorist activities which were confined only to Kashmir earlier had since spread to Doda and even Jammu. Foreign mercenaries had been operating in that region and there was no check on them. The sanctity of parliamentary institutions was being violated blatantly. The Election Commission was not in favour of holding elections at this juncture in the State. Even the Government had admitted that there was likelihood of a low turnout of voters. The country's security forces had not been given a free hand to deal with the situation and the civil administration had completely collapsed. There had never been a clear-cut policy on Kashmir right from the beginning. Irresponsible statements on Kashmir had further complicated the issue. The signals which were being sent to the people of Kashmir would encourage forces which did not want to see India strong and united. It should be made clear to the militants that Jammu and Kashmir was an integral part of India and that no power on earth could

*Contributed by the Research and Library Section, Rajya Sabha Secretariat

separate it from India. There was no rationale behind attempting to convert the transitional art. 370 of the Constitution into a permanent one, rather, it should be scrapped. Migrants from the State should be resettled there before holding elections and Regional Councils should also be set up for Jammu and Ladakh regions. Besides, security forces should be given a free hand to tackle the situation in Jammu and Kashmir on their own.

Replying to the discussion** on 4 December 1995, the Minister of Home Affairs, Shri S.B. Chavan said that the Kashmir issue was a national issue. The approach of the Government to that problem could not be partisan. There were special provisions for the North-Eastern States, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, etc. What the Government was doing in respect of Jammu and Kashmir was not something new. Article 370 provided for special accommodation because of the special political background of the State. Whenever the Government talked of elections, people from across the border, especially Pakistan, tried to create greater violence. Foreign mercenaries were indulging in violence and were spreading false rumours. The Chrar-e-Sharief shrine was burnt down by foreign mercenaries. All sections of the people in Jammu and Kashmir neither wanted to merge with Pakistan nor did they want an independent Kashmir. They rather liked to be in the mainstream of the Indian national life.

The Minister informed that in the paramilitary forces and local police, etc. about 10,400 people had been recruited and quite a large number got employment through the Prime Minister's special scheme for employment. The burden of the deficit of the State administration had been reduced. In the current year, the Government was providing Rs. 1,050 crore for the annual schemes that needed to be implemented. Two major hydro-electric stations, namely the Dulhasti Project and the Uri Project had been sanctioned, for which Rs. 600 crore would be spent. Both the projects together would not only meet the entire power requirements of Jammu and Kashmir but would be able to supply surplus power to other States also. A railway line from Uddhampur to Baramulla via Srinagar had been sanctioned by the Railway Ministry. The air-strip at Kargil had also been renovated. The Government had created a Regional Hill Council in the Ladakh area and both Leh and Kargil would also be able to have such Hill Councils. A conducive atmosphere had to be created for holding free and fair elections in the State. It was not only Pakistan but there were also some big world powers who had certain evil designs so far as Jammu and Kashmir was concerned.

*Other members who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri V. Narayana Swamy, Mufti Mohd. Sayeed, G. Swaminathan, Vayalar Ravi, Chaturanan Mishra, Jagmohan, Satya Prakash Malviya, Ish Dutt Yadav, V. Gopalsamy, Sangh Priya Gautam and Dr. Biplab Dasgupta

After the Pressler Amendment, $ 370 million worth of US arms were to be given to Pakistan. That was why India had expressed its grave concern to the US Government. If confrontations between India and Pakistan continued in that way, both of them would have to spend a huge amount of money on their defence. To that extent, the country's non-Plan expenditure was bound to increase. So far as changes in nomenclature of the Governor and the Chief Minister were concerned, some special provisions were required to be made in view of the peculiar political background of the State. The intentions of the Government on the issue of Kashmir were very clear and it did not want to hide anything from the members.

Steep fall in the value of rupee against dollar: On 4 December 1995, Shri Gurudas Das Gupta called the attention of the Minister of Finance to the steep fall in the value of the rupee against the dollar and its impact on the country's economy.

Replying to the Calling Attention, the Minister of Finance, Dr. Manmohan Singh said that in recent weeks there had been concern at the movement in the exchange rate of the rupee. After a prolonged period of stability between March 1993 and July 1995, the exchange rate of the rupee against the US dollar depreciated by 10 per cent between the end of the July 1995 and November 1995.

All over the world, countries had shifted away from the older system of maintaining fixed exchange rates to more flexible systems in which the exchange rate was not rigidly fixed but allowed to move from day to day reflecting market conditions, subject to interventions by the central monetary authority to maintain orderly market conditions. India had moved to the new system in March 1993, when the earlier dual exchange rate regime was unified into a single market-determined exchange rate system. Under that system there was no officially fixed exchange rate of the rupee. Instead, the rate was determined by the demand and supply condition in the foreign exchange market, while the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) stood ready to intervene to maintain orderly market conditions and to curb excessive speculations. Despite the shift to a market-determined system, the rupee-dollar rate remained steady at about Rs. 31.50 for over two years between March 1993 and July 1995. That happened mainly because there was a large inflow of foreign portfolio investment in 1993 and most of 1994.

Towards the end of 1994, the inflow of portfolio investment slowed down considerably. The economy also picked up in 1994-95, with industry growing at 8 per cent, a strong revival of investment and an overall GDP growth of 6.2 per cent. It was expected that the revival of the economy would generate a large demand for imports and the balance of payment deficit on current account would widen.

That was exactly what had happened. The current account deficit increased from the abnormally low level of 0.1 per cent of the GDP in 1993-94 to 0.7 per cent of the GDP in 1994-95. It was expected to increase further to about 1.5 per cent of the GDP in 1995-96. That was a normal level of current account deficit in Indian circumstances and was sustainable by medium and long term capital flows. The reduction in capital flows and the widening of the current account deficit ended the earlier period of surplus dollar availability. Against that background, the operation of normal supply and demand conditions in the foreign exchange markets gave rise to expectations of a depreciation of the exchange rate. The exchange rate behaviour in recent months was a response to those expectations, though the extent of fluctuations was accentuated by speculative factors.

One of the fundamental factors which influenced the movement in the exchange rate after the middle of 1995 was that the competitiveness of India in the international market was significantly eroded by the higher rate of inflation, as compared to the rates of inflation in other countries who were major trading partners of India. As a result, the index of the real effective exchange rate which was obtained by adjusting the index of nominal effective exchange rate (using a basket of major currencies) by differential rate of inflation (in India as compared to these major currencies) showed an appreciation of India's exchange rate in real terms in the order of 7 per cent between 1993-94 and August 1995.

The recent change in the exchange rate had corrected the erosion in competitiveness and would help ensure that export growth remained strong and import growth was contained. Both factors would help contain the trade deficit to manageable levels. However, as often happened when the rate changed after a long period of stability, the change in the exchange rate triggered some speculative factors which, if unchecked, would have caused excessive depreciation. Therefore, the RBI intervened decisively when the exchange rate of the rupee reached Rs. 35.80 per US dollar in late October 1995. As a result, the rupee bounced back and remained stable since then between Rs. 34.50 and Rs. 35 per US dollar. The RBI would continue to monitor exchange market developments and intervene as was necessary to ensure that market fluctuations were contained within reasonable levels and were consistent with the economic fundamentals.

As regards exchange rate, it had to be at a realistic level if the Indian economy was to grow. The Government had set in motion a process which, if followed for sometime, would enable India to bring its debt service ratio to about 20 per cent.

The country's exports should have to be strengthened in order to strengthen the economy. Lowering of the value of the rupee certainly made some goods cheaper to foreigners, but the rate of profit should be in their own currency. The depreciation of the rupee also meant that the dollar value of their profit did not go up. Therefore, that did not mean that the exchange rate would necessarily enable foreigners to overpower the Indian industry. The country paid its debt, including principal and interest, through export of goods and services. India was moving in the right direction and there was no evidence that poverty, unemployment, etc. had increased, the Minister added.

Situation arising out of the recent devastating floods in different parts of the country: On 5 December 1995, Shri Janardan Yadav called the attention of the Minister of Agriculture to the situation arising out of the recent devastating floods in different parts of the country and the steps taken by the Government in regard thereto.

Replying to the Calling Attention, the Minister of State of Agriculture, Shri Arvind Netam informed that during the current year, the monsoon made a sluggish beginning and by the end of June only 15 out of the 35 meteorological sub-divisions received excess or normal rainfall. The monsoon current gained strength in the second week of July. By the end of August the rainfall distribution was excess or normal over 30 meteorological sub-divisions. About 80 per cent of the districts received normal or excess rainfall.

The cyclonic activity in the Bay of Bengal had been high during the current year. Three depressions were formed over the Bay of Bengal in the first and second week of May and intensified into deep depressions resulting in heavy rains, waterlogging and floods in some districts of Tamil Nadu and in most of the coastal districts of Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, West Bengal, Mizoram and some other States in the North-East. Two monsoon depressions in the North Bay of Bengal in September created widespread rains in Orissa, West Bengal, Sikkim, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. Four low pressure areas were also formed during the monsoon and caused well distributed rainfall in the central and north-western parts of the country. Again, well marked low pressure areas formed over the Bay of Bengal in October and November leading to heavy precipitation in many parts of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Orissa, West Bengal and Bihar.

During the south-west monsoon, the North-Eastern States experienced floods in the first half of June. In the latter half of July, floods occured in many parts of Jammu and Kashmir. During the last week of August, most parts of north-west India, namely, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan, Haryana and Delhi experienced

floods. In September, parts of east Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal and the eastern States were affected by floods. According to the reports received from the State Governments, monsoon floods affected 23 States in varying degrees claiming about 2,341 lives and damaging about 22 lakh houses and crops in an area of 43 lakh hectares.

Relief and rehabilitation measures in the wake of the natural calamities were undertaken by the concerned State Governments. The Government of India provided physical and financial support to the State Governments to meet the situation effectively. The Tenth Finance Commission had also recognised that fact and had bestowed greater autonomy and responsibility on the State Governments in managing the challenges posed by recurrent natural calamities. The present scheme of financing relief expenditure based on the recommendations of the Tenth Finance Commission had continued the system of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) with enhanced annual allocations for the State Governments. For the five years from 1995 to 2000, an allocation of Rs. 6,304 crore had been made against Rs. 4,020 crore allocated by the Ninth Finance Commission.

The Tenth Finance Commission had also recognised the need for assisting the State Governments in dealing with calamities of rare severity. In such situations, the States required assistance and support beyond what was envisaged in the CRF scheme. A National Fund for Calamity Relief with an allocation of Rs. 700 crore had been made available for five years as an additional assistance to the State Governments in the wake of calamities of rare severity. The Fund was managed by the National Calamity Relief Committee (NCRC) which was a sub-committee of the National Development Council.

Referring to the measures taken by the Government, the Minister said that all the instalments of financial assistance had been released to almost all the States. A National Water Policy would be formulated by the Union Government to control floods in the country. There had been significant progress in forecasting of floods and the Government was trying to further improve that system. It was not possible to fully control the natural calamities. However, efforts were being made by the Government of India to provide maximum financial assistance to the States for flood control measures, the Minister stated.

B. LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

*The Research and Development Cess (Amendment) Bill, 1995 and the Technology Development Board Bill, 1995** Moving the motion

*The Bills, as passed by the Lok Sabha, were laid on the Table on 26 August 1995

for consideration of the Research and Development Cess (Amendment) Bill, 1995 on 28 November 1995, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance, Dr. Debi Prosad Pal said that the Research and Development Cess Act, 1986 provided for the levy and collection of cess on all payments made for the import of technology for purposes of encouraging the commercial application of indigenously developed technology and for adapting imported technology to wider domestic application and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. The aforesaid Act provided that the proceeds of the cess levied and collected under the said Act should be first credited to the Consolidated Fund of India and thereafter the Union Government should make payment out of such proceeds to the Venture Capital Fund of the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI). The IDBI utilised the Venture Capital Fund for providing financial assistance to industrial concerns attempting commercial applications to indigenous technology and adapting imported technology to wider domestic application.

With the increasing pace of industrialisation in the Indian economy, research, design and development work related to application-oriented technology was vital not only to improve India's industrial productivity but also to develop appropriate technologies. Thus, there was a growing need to make science and technology an effective instrument of national renewal. To accelerate the development and application of indigenous technology to production processes, it was announced at the time of presenting the Union Budget for 1994-95 that it was proposed to place the proceeds of the cess into a new fund for technology development and application and that the proposed fund would be placed at the disposal of a Technology Development Board which was proposed to be set up as a statutory body by a separate legislation.

With a view to achieving the above objectives it was proposed to amend the Research and Development Cess Act, 1986 so as to substitute the Venture Capital Fund by the Technology Development Board which was proposed to be constituted under a separate enactment, namely the Technology Development Board Bill, 1995. It was also proposed to make some consequential amendments in the said Act.

Moving the motion for consideration of the Technology Development Board Bill, 1995 on 28 November 1995, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance, Dr. Debi Prosad Pal said that the Bill was complementary to the Research and Development Cess (Amendment) Bill, 1995. The Technology Development Board Bill, 1995, sought to provide for the constitution of a Board for payment of equity capital or any other financial assistance to industrial concerns

*The Bill was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 28 November 1995

and institutions attempting commercial application of indigenous technology or adapting imported technology to wider domestic applications and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

The motions for consideration of the Bills and the clauses, etc. were adopted and the Bills were passed the same day.

The Industrial Disputes (Amendment) Bill, 1995:* Moving the motion for consideration of the Bill on 5 December 1995, the Minister of Information and Broadcasting, Shri P.A. Sangma said that since the establishments and activities of the air transport services, the Airport Authority of India, the Oil and Natural Gas Commission and the Industrial Finance Corporation of India were spread across States and had countrywide ramifications, it was considered expedient and desirable to ensure uniformity in the handling of industrial disputes concerning such establishments and activities. That necessitated an amendment of Section 2(a) of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 to stipulate the Union Government as the "appropriate government" in that respect.

The motion for consideration of the Bill and the Clauses, etc. were adopted and the Bill was passed the same day.

C. QUESTION HOUR

During the One Hundred and Seventy-fifth Session of the Rajya Sabha, 7.071 notices of Questions (6,654 Starred and 417 Unstarred) were received. 'Out of these, 397 were admitted as Starred Questions and 2,811 as Unstarred Questions. 22 Short Notice Questions were received but none was admitted.

Daily Average of Questions: Each of the lists of Starred Questions contained 20 Questions except on 27 November 1995 when the list contained 19 Starred Questions. On an average, one question was orally answered per sitting. The maximum number of Questions orally answered was five on 1 December 1995 and the minimum number of Questions orally answered was one on 11 December 1995.

The minimum number of Questions admitted in the list of Unstarred Questions was 77 on 4 December 1995 and their maximum number was 155 on all dates except 27 November to 1 December, 4 to 6 December 1995 and 8 and 11 December 1995. Their average came to 141.

Half-an-Hour Discussions: Five notices of Half-an-Hour Discussion were received but none was admitted. Discussion on one notice for Half-an-Hour Discussion pending from the 174th Session was not concluded during this Session also.

Statement correcting answers to Questions: Three statements correcting replies to Questions answered in the Rajya Sabha were laid by the Ministers concerned.

D. OBITUARY REFERENCES

During the Session, references were made to the passing away of the Prime Minister of Israel, Mr. Yitzhak Rabin; Sarvashri Shankar Dayal Singh, Pragada Kotaiah, Dinesh Singh, all sitting members; and Sarvashri Kasim Ali Abid, Shiv Dayal Singh Chaurasia, Kumbha Ram Arya, Shamim Ahmed Siddiqi, Harisinh Bhagubava Mehida and Dharamchand Jain and Smt. Leela Damodara Menon and Vijaya Raje, all ex-members. Members stood in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the deceased.

SESSIONAL REVIEW

STATE LEGISLATURES

ASSAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY*

The Ninth Assam Legislative Assembly commenced its Eleventh Session on 18 September 1995 and was prorogued on 29 September 1995. There were 8 sittings in all.

Legislative business: During the Session, nine Government Bills, including one Appropriation Bill,, were introduced, considered and passed by the House. The eight other Bills were: (i) The Assam Amusement and Betting Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1995; (ii) The Assam Tea Plantations Provident Fund (and Pension Fund) (and Deposit Linked Insurance Fund) Scheme (Amendment) Bill, 1995; (iii) The Guwahati Municipal Corporation (Amendment) Bill, 1995; (iv) The Guwahati Metropolitan Development Authority (Amendment) Bill, 1995; (v) The Lalung (Tiwa) Autonomous Council Bill, 1995; (vi) The Mising Autonomous Council Bill, 1995; (vii) The Assam Municipal (Amendment) Bill, 1995; and (viii) The Assam Madrassa Education (Provincialisation) Bill, 1995.

Financial business: The Finance Minister presented the list of Supplementary Demands for Grants and Supplementary Appropriations for the year 1995-96 which was voted and passed by the House. The Assam Appropriation Bill, (No.III) 1995, introduced by the Finance Minister, was also passed by the House.

Obituary references: On 18 September 1995, obituary references were made on the demise of sixteen leading personalities.

GUJARAT LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

A one-day session of the Gujarat Legislative Assembly was held on 7 October 1995 for expressing a vote of confidence in the Keshubhai Patel Ministry.

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*Material contributed by the Assam Legislative Assembly Secretariat

**Material contributed by the Gujarat Legislative Assembly Secretariat

Obituary references: On 7 October 1995, obituary references were made on the demise of two former Speakers and some former members of the House.

HIMACHAL PRADESH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY*

The Eighth Himachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly, which commenced its Sixth Session on 27 September 1995, was adjourned *sine die* on 5 October 1995. The House was prorogued on 7 October 1995. There were five sittings in all.

Legislative business: During the Session, the following six Bills were passed by the Legislative Assembly: (i) The H.P. Electricity (Taxation on Generation) Bill, 1995; (ii) The H.P. Municipal (Amendment) Bill, 1995; (iii) The H.P. Municipal Corporation (Amendment Bill, 1995; (iv) The H.P. Non-Biodegradable Garbage (Control) Bill, 1995; (v) The H.P. Legislative Assembly (Allowances and Pension of Members) Amendment Bill, 1995; and (vi) The H.P. Aerial Ropeways (Amendment) Bill, 1995

Obituary references: During the Session, obituary references were made on the passing away of the former Chief Minister of Punjab, Sardar Beant Singh and former member of Parliament and the Himachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly, Shri Gopi Ram. Obituary references were also made in respect of persons who lost their lives as a result of some natural calamities in Himachal Pradesh.

KARNATAKA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

The Tenth Karnataka Legislative Assembly, which commenced its Third Session on 7 August 1995, was adjourned *sine die* on 22 September 1995. The House was prorogued on 12 October 1995. There were in all 26 sittings.

Financial business: During the Session, the Demands for Grants for the Year 1995-96 were discussed and voted in full. The first instalment of the Supplementary Estimates for the year 1995-96 was also laid before the House by the Finance Minister.

Legislative business: During the session, in all 14 bills were passed by the House.

Obituary references: Obituary references were made on the demise of some former members of the Legislative Assembly and other eminent personalities. They were: Sarvashri A.V. Appaswamy Reddy, G. Narayanappa, C.L. Kallappa, Sripada Hegade, M.L. Nanjaraje Urs, K. Henjarappa, M. Eregowda, T.N. Balakrishnan, K. Chidananda, S.R.

*Material contributed by the Himachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly Secretariat

**Material contributed by the Karnataka Legislative Assembly Secretariat

Ekkundi, Sardar Beant Singh, Vakpadi Srinivas Shetty, Seetaram Kushaiah Ameen, Prof. N.G. Ranga and Dr. S. Chandrashekar.

MADHYA PRADESH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

The Tenth Madhya Pradesh Vidhan Sabha commenced its Sixth Session on 21 August 1995 which was adjourned *sine die* on 22 September 1995. There were 20 sittings in all.

Financial business: During the Session, a proposal for Supplementary Amount was presented before the House on 31 August 1995. Subsequently, the Appropriation Bill, 1995 concerned with the said Supplementary Demand, was also presented, discussed and passed by the House on 1 September 1995.

Obituary references: During the Session, obituary references were made on the demise of the former Governor of Rajasthan, Shri Sukhdev Prasad and former Chief Minister of Punjab, Sardar Beant Singh and one of his security persons. Obituary references were also made on the passing away of the former members of the Legislative Assembly, Sarvashri Sunnu Lal Madoiya, Liladhar Joshi Kamata Prasad, Bhure Lal Phirojiya, Shail Kumar Sharma, Ram Narayan Sakhawar, Narayan Prasad Chaudhri and Dinkar Rao Dange and Smt. Omkumar and the famous architect of satire in Hindi, Shri Harishankar Parsai.

ORISSA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY*

The Eleventh Orissa Legislative Assembly, which commenced its Third Session on 15 November 1995, was adjourned *sine die* on 28 November 1995. The House was later prorogued on 5 December 1995. There were 11 sittings in all.

Financial business: On 15 November 1995, the First Supplementary Statement of Expenditure for the year 1995-96 was presented. The relevant Appropriation Bill was passed on 23 November 1995.

Legislative business: The following Bills were passed during the Session: (i) The Orissa Grama Panchayats (Amendment) Bill, 1995; (ii) The Orissa Panchayat Samiti (Amendment) Bill, 1995; (iii) The Orissa Zilla Parishad (Amendment) Bill, 1995; (iv) The Orissa Municipal (Amendment) Bill, 1995; (v) The Orissa Electricity Reforms Bill, 1995; and (vi) The Orissa Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 1995.

Obituary references: On 15 November 1995, obituary references were made on the demise of a sitting member, Shri Baikunthanath Swain and a former member, Shri Baikunthanath Mohanty.

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*Material contributed by the Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly Secretariat

**Material contributed by the Orissa Legislative Assembly Secretariat

The Fourth Session of the Eleventh Orissa Legislative Assembly commenced on 26 December 1995 and was adjourned *sine die* on 29 December 1995. The House was prorogued on 9 January 1996. In all, the House had 4 sittings.

Legislative business: During the Session, the following Bills were passed by the House : (i) The Orissa Sales Tax (Second Amendment) Bill, 1995; (ii) The Orissa Homeopathic Medical Teaching Service (Appointment of Lecturers Validation) Bill, 1995; and (iii) The Talcher Thermal Power Station (Acquisition and Transfer) Amendment Bill, 1995.

10

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APPENDIX I

STATEMENT SHOWING THE WORK TRANSACTED DURING THE FIFTEENTH SESSION OF THE TENTH LOK SABHA

1.	PERIOD OF THE SESSION		27 November to 22 December 1995
2.	NUMBER OF SITTINGS HELD		20
3.	TOTAL NUMBER OF SITTING HOURS		43 hours and 22 minutes
4.	GOVERNMENT BILLS		
	i)	Pending at the commencement of the Session	18
	ii)	Introduced	9
	iii)	Laid on the Table as passed by the Rajya Sabha	1
	iv)	Referred to the Departmentally related Standing Committees by the Speaker/Chairman, Rajya Sabha	2
	v)	Reported by Standing Committees	7
	vi)	Discussed	5
	vii)	Passed	5
	vii)	Returned by the Rajya Sabha without any recommendation	1
	ix)	Pending at the end of the Session	23
5.	PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS		
	i)	Pending at the commencement of the Session	354
	ii)	Introduced	3
	iii)	Discussed	2
	iv)	Discussion postponed	1
	v)	Part-discussed	1
	vi)	Removed from the Register of Pending Bills	2
	vii)	Pending at the end of the Session	355
6.	NUMBER OF DISCUSSIONS HELD UNDER RULE 193 (Matters of Urgent Public Importance)		
	i)	Notices received	103
	ii)	Admitted	1
	iii)	Discussions held	1
7.	STATUTORY RESOLUTIONS		
	i)	Notices received	100
	ii)	Admitted	8
	iii)	Moved	4
	iv)	Adopted	3
8.	GOVERNMENT RESOLUTIONS		
	i)	Notices received	2
	ii)	Admitted	2
	iii)	Moved	2
	iv)	Adopted	2

9. PRIVATE MEMBERS' RESOLUTIONS
   - i) Received 6
   - ii) Admitted 5
   - iii) Discussed 1
   - iv) Part-discussed 1

10. GOVERNMENT MOTIONS
   - i) Notices received 1
   - ii) Admitted 1

11. TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITORS' PASSES ISSUED DURING THE SESSION 8,226

12. MAXIMUM NUMBER OF VISITORS' PASSES ISSUED ON ANY SINGLE DAY AND DATE ON WHICH ISSUED 786 on 8 December 1995

13. NUMBER OF ADJOURNMENT MOTIONS
   - i) Consent withheld by the Speaker outside the House 56

14. TOTAL NUMBER OF QUESTIONS ADMITTED
   - i) Starred 400
   - ii) Unstarred 4,202

15. WORKING OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

Sl. No.	Name of the Committee	No. of sittings held during the period 1 October to 31 December 1995	No. of Reports presented
1	2	3	4
(i)	Business Advisory Committee	—	—
(ii)	Committee on Absence of Members	—	—
(iii)	Committee on Public Undertakings	14	3
(iv)	Committee on Papers Laid on the Table	—	—
(v)	Committee on Petitions	6	2
(vi)	Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions	2	2
(vii)	Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes	—	—
(viii)	Committee on Privileges	—	—
(ix)	Committee on Government Assurances	20	4
(x)	Committee on Subordinate Legislation	4	3
(xi)	Estimates Committee	2	—
(xii)	General Purposes Committee	—	—
(xiii)	House Committee		
(a)	Accommodation Sub-Committee	—	—
(b)	Sub-Committee on Amenities	—	—
(c)	Sub-Committee on Furnishing	—	—
(xiv)	Public Accounts Committee	7	4
(xv)	Railway Convention Committee	—	—
(xvi)	Rules Committee	—	—

JOINT/SELECT COMMITTEES

(i)	Joint Committee on Offices of Profit	—	—

STANDING COMMITTEES

(i)	Committee on Agriculture	—	—
(ii)	Committee on Communications	5	5
(iii)	Committee on Defence	4	—
(iv)	Committee on Energy	6	9
(v)	Committee on External Affairs	5	3
(vi)	Committee on Finance	5	1
(vii)	Committee on Food, Civil Supplies and Public Distribution	—	—
(viii)	Committee on Labour and Welfare	9	2
(ix)	Committee on Petroleum and Chemicals	5	5
(x)	Committee on Railways	6	2
(xi)	Committee on Urban and Rural Development	—	—

16.	NUMBER OF MEMBERS GRANTED LEAVE OF ABSENCE	5
17.	PETITIONS PRSENTED	1
18.	NUMBER OF NEW MEMBERS SWORN IN, WITH DATE	—

APPENDIX II

STATEMENT SHOWING THE WORK TRANSACTED DURING THE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE RAJYA SABHA

1.	PERIOD OF THE SESSION		27.11.95 to 22.12.95
2.	NUMBER OF SITTINGS HELD		20
3.	TOTAL NUMBER OF SITTING HOURS		32 hrs & 23 mts (excluding lunch break)
4.	NUMBER OF DIVISIONS HELD		Nil
5.	GOVERNMENT BILLS		
	(i)	Pending at the commencement of the Session	36
	(ii)	Introduced	2
	(iii)	Laid on the Table as passed by Lok Sabha	5
	(iv)	Returned by the Lok Sabha with any amendment	Nil
	(v)	Referred to Select Committee by the Rajya Sabha	Nil
	(vi)	Referred to Joint Committee by the Rajya Sabha	Nil
	(vii)	Referred to the Departmentally-related Standing Committees	2
	(viii)	Reported by Select Committee	Nil
	(ix)	Reported by Joint Committee	Nil
	(x)	Reported by the Departmentally-related Standing Committees	11
	(xi)	Discussed	6
	(xii)	Passed	6
	(xiii)	Withdrawn	1
	(xiv)	Negatived	Nil
	(xv)	Part-discussed	Nil
	(xvi)	Returned by the Rajya Sabha without any recommendation	1
	(xvii)	Discussion postponed	Nil
	(xviii)	Pending at the end of the Session	35
6.	PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS		
	(i)	Pending at the commencement of the Session	94*
	(ii)	Introduced	5
	(iii)	Laid on the Table as passed by the Lok Sabha	Nil
	(iv)	Returned by the Lok Sabha with any amendment and laid on the Table	Nil
	(v)	Reported by Joint Committee	Nil
	(vi)	Discussed	2

* At the end of the 174th Session, 220 Bills were pending

	(vii)	Withdrawn	2
	(viii)	Passed	Nil
	(ix)	Negatived	Nil
	(x)	Circulated for eliciting opinion	Nil
	(xi)	Part-discussed	1
	(xii)	Discussion postponed	Nil
	(xiii)	Motion for circulation of Bill negatived	Nil
	(xiv)	Referred to Select Committee	Nil
	(xv)	Lapsed-due to retirement/death of Member-in-charge of the Bill	126
	(xvi)	Pending at the end of the Session	98
7.	NUMBER OF DISCUSSIONS HELD UNDER RULE 176 (MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE)		
	(i)	Notices received	28
	(ii)	Admitted	5 (on 1 subjects)
	(iii)	Discussions held	1
8.	NUMBER OF STATEMENTS MADE UNDER RULE 180 (CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE)		
		Statements made by Ministers	2
9.	HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSIONS HELD		Nil
10.	STATUTORY RESOLUTIONS		
	(i)	Notices received	52
	(ii)	Admitted	48 (on 1 subject)
	(iii)	Moved	3
	(iv)	Adopted	2
	(v)	Negatived	1
	(vi)	Withdrawn	Nil
11.	GOVERNMENT RESOLUTIONS		
	(i)	Notices received	2
	(ii)	Admitted	2
	(iii)	Moved	Nil
	(iv)	Adopted	Nil
12.	PRIVATE MEMBERS' RESOLUTIONS		
	(i)	Received	7
	(ii)	Admitted	7
	(iii)	Discussed	Nil
	(iv)	Withdrawn	Nil
	(v)	Negatived	Nil
	(vi)	Adopted	Nil
	(vii)	Part-discussed	Nil
	(viii)	Discussion postponed	Nil

13.	GOVERNMENT MOTIONS		
	(i)	Notices received	1
	(ii)	Admitted	1
	(iii)	Moved	Nil
	(iv)	Adopted	Nil
	(v)	Part-discussed	Nil
14.	PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS		
	(i)	Received	27
	(ii)	Admitted	Nil
	(iii)	Moved	Nil
	(iv)	Adopted	Nil
	(v)	Part-discussed	Nil
	(vi)	Negatived	Nil
	(vii)	Withdrawn	Nil
15.	MOTIONS REGARDING MODIFICATION OF STATUTORY RULE		
	(i)	Received	Nil
	(ii)	Admitted	Nil
	(iii)	Moved	Nil
	(iv)	Adopted	Nil
	(v)	Negatived	Nil
	(vi)	Withdrawn	Nil
	(vii)	Part-discussed	Nil
	(viii)	Lapsed	Nil
16.	NUMBER, NAME AND DATE OF THE PARLIAMENTRY COMMITTEE CREATED, IF ANY.		Nil
17.	TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITORS' PASSES ISSUED		1,035
18.	TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS VISITED		1,720
19.	MAXIMUM NUMBER OF VISITORS' PASSES ISSUED ON ANY SINGLE DAY, AND DATE ON WHICH ISSUED		112 on 8.12.95
20.	MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PERSONS VISITED ON ANY SINGLE DAY AND DATE ON WHICH VISITED		176 on 30.11.95
21.	TOTAL NUMBER OF QUESTIONS ADMITTED		
	(i)	Starred	397
	(ii)	Unstarred	2,811
	(ii)	Short-Notice Questions	Nil
22.	DISCUSSION ON THE WORKING OF THE MINISTRIES		Nil

23. WORKING OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

Name of Committee		No. of meetings held during the period from 1 October to 31 December 1995	No. of Reports presented during the 175th Session
(i)	Business Advisory Committee	2	Nil
(ii)	Committee on Subordinate Legislation	3	Nil
(iii)	Committee on Petitions	13	Nil
(iv)	Committee on Privileges	Nil	Nil
(v)	Committee on Rules	Nil	Nil
(vi)	Committee on Government Assurances	4	Nil
(vii)	Committee on Papers Laid on the Table	11	Nil
DEPARTMENTALLY-RELATED STANDING COMMITTEES :			
(viii)	Commerce	4	2
(ix)	Home Affairs	9	4
(x)	Human Resource Development	7	3
(xi)	Industry	2	Nil
(xii)	Science and Technology, Environment and Forests	1	Nil
(xiii)	Transport and Tourism	3	1

24. NUMBER OF MEMBERS GRANTED LEAVE OF ABSENCE 3

25. PETITIONS PRESENTED 3

26. NAME OF NEW MEMBERS SWORN IN WITH DATES

Sl. No	Name of members sworn in	Date on which sworn in
1	2	3
1.	Shri Joy Nadukara	27 November 1995

27. OBITUARY REFERENCES

Sl. No.	Name	Sitting member/Ex-member dignitary
1.	Shri Yitzhak Rabin	Prime Minister of Israel
2.	Shri Shankar Dayal Singh	Sitting Member
3.	Shri Pragada Kotaiah	-do-
4.	Shri Kasim Ali Abid	Ex-member
5.	Shri Shiv Dayal Singh Chaurasia	-do-
6.	Shrimati Leela Damodara Menon	-do-
7.	Shri Kumbha Ram Arya	-do-
8.	Shri Shamim Ahmed Siddiqi	-do-
9.	Shri Harisinh Bhagubava Mahida	-do-
10.	Shri Dinesh Singh	Sitting member
11.	Shri Dharmchand Jain	Ex-member
12.	Shrimati Vijaya Raje	-do-

APPENDIX III

STATEMENTS SHOWING THE ACTIVITIES OF THE LEGISLATURES OF THE STATES AND UNION TERRITORIES DURING THE PERIOD 1 OCTOBER TO 31 DECEMBER 1995

Legislature	Duration	Sittings	Govt. Bills	Private Bills	Starred Questions	Unstarred Questions	Short Notice Questions
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
STATES							
Andhra Pradesh L.A.	4.12.95 to 8.12.95 18.12.95 to 22.12.95	10	11(7)	—	453(150)	112[a]	94(7)
Arunachal Pradesh L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Assam L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bihar L.A.	2.10.95 to 2.10.95 22.12.95 to 22.12.95	2	10(10)	—	1651(791)	9(621)	478(30)
Bihar L.C.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Delhi L.A.	18.12.95 to 22.12.95	5	5(3)	2	655(100)	(412)	4
Gujarat L.A.	7.10.95 to 7.10.95	1	—	—	—	568(263)	—
Goa L.A.	11.12.95 to 15.12.95	5	9(6)	—	295.8(183)[b]	64(144)[c]	4(1)
Haryana L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Himachal Pradesh L.A.	31.10.95 to 31.10.95	1	(1)	—	(d)	(e)	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Jammu & Kashmir L.A. ❂	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jammu & Kashmir L.C.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Karnataka L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Karnataka L.C.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kerala L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Madhya Pradesh L.A.	22.11.95 15.12.95	17	5(5)	—	2798(1629)	1231(1421)	1
Maharashtra L.A.	4.12.95 to 22.12.95	14	14(18)	1	8144(1050)	107(21)	356(25)
Maharashtra L.C.	4.12.95 to 22.12.95	11	1(12)	—	3039(585)	18(5)	50(7)
Manipur L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meghalaya L.A.	15.12.95 to 21.12.95	4	2(2)	—	74	48	—
Mizoram L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nagaland L.A.	4.7.95 to 10.7.95	5	3(2)	—	52(52)	12(12)	—
Orissa L.A.	15.11.95 to 28.11.95 26.12.95 to 29.12.95	15	9(9)	5	1929(1353)	1684(2374)[f]	174(23)
Punjab L.A.	—	—	—	—	23(17)	24(19)	—
Rajasthan L .A.*	26.10.95 to 3.11.95	7	8(7)	1	499(472)	469(453)	15[g]
Sikkim L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tamil Nadu L.A.	2.11.95 to 10.11.95	7	17(17)	—	12498(87)	(347)	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Tripura L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uttar Pradesh L.A.	—	—	—	—	335	180(29)	96
Uttar Pradesh L.C.	—	—	—	—	71	15	4
West Bengal L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
UNION TERRITORIES							
Pondicherry L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

*Information not received from the State/Union territory Legislatures

**Information received from State Legislatures contained NIL Report

@ Dissolved since 19.2.90

Notes : (a) Including Starred Questions admitted as Unstarred
(b) 9 Questions admitted as Unstarred
(c) 89 Questions Converted as Unstarred
(d) and (e) 4 postponed starred questions and 4 postponed Unstarred questions were taken up
(e) Non Session period : Notices Received: 46; Notices admitted: 45

APPENDIX - III (Contd.)

Committees at Work/Number of Sittings held and number of Reports presented during the period 1 October to 31 December 1995

	Business Advisory Committee	Committee on Govt. Assurances	Committee on Petitions	Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions	Committee on Privileges	Committee on Public Undertakings	Committee on Subordinate Legislation	Committee on the Welfare of SC and ST	Estimates Committee	General Purposes Committee	House/Accommodation Committee	Library Committee	Public Accounts Committee	Rules Committee	Joint/Select Committee	Other Committees
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
STATES																
Andhra Pradesh L.A.	1	10	1	—	5	11(1)	12	24	11	—	—	3	28	1	—	—
Arunachal Pradesh L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Assam L.A.	—	6	4	—	4	1	1	6	6	—	3	1	6	—	—	10(3)[a]
Bihar L.A.	—	26	58	—	—	69(1)	5	38	63	1	36	34	43(3)	—	—	150[d]
Bihar L.C **	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Delhi L.A.	2(1)	2	2	1(1)	3(1)	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	2	2	—	7(1)[c]
Goa L.A.	1(1)	2	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	1	5(1)	—	—	1	—
Gujarat L.A.	—	—	1	—	—	3	1	—	5	—	3	—	17	—	—	17[d]
Haryana L.A.	—	9	—	—	—	1	13	19	15	—	1	13	27	—	—	—
Himachal Pradesh L.A.	—	—	3	—	1	12(2)	—	10	7(5)	—	—	1	11	2	—	42(3)[e]
Jammu & Kashmir L.A.$	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jammu & Kashmir L.C.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Karnataka L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Karnataka L.C.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kerala L.A.	—	12	7	4	6	15	7	8	11	—	9	5	9	—	—	41[f]
Madhya Pradesh L.A.	3(2)	—	2	3(3)	—	9(8)	3(1)	—	3	—	3	3	5	1	—	6(2)[g]
Maharashtra L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maharashtra L.C.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Manipur L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meghalaya L.A.	1	9	3	—	—	9(1)	4	3	5	—	1	1	3	—	—	—
Mizoram L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nagaland L.A.	—	1(1)	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Orissa L.A.	6	6	5	—	—	7(2)	6(1)	10(1)	8(2)	11(2)	4	5	17(4)	1	—	24(5)[h]
Punjab L.A.	—	16	—	—	—	16	2	15	12	—	1	—	19	—	—	9[i]
Rajasthan L.A.	2	24	32	—	22(3)	21	19(1)	55	57	—	12	11	18	16	—	40[j]
Sikkim L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tamil Nadu L.A.	1	24(2)	9(5)	—	5	16(16)	2	—	8	—	2	—	6(42)	1	—	13(18)[k]
Tripura L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	4	—	—	—	—	—
Uttar Pradesh L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Uttar Pradesh L.C.*	—	5	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	26@
West Bengal L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
UNION TERRITORIES																
Pondicherry L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

*Information received from State/Union Territory Legislatures contained NIL Report
**Information not received
@ Dissolved since 19.2.90
Notes :

(a) Employment Review Committee-4 sittings and 1 reoport; Act Implementation Committee-4 sittings and no report; Committee on the Welfare of the Backward Classes and more other Backward Classes-2 sittings and 2 reports

(b) Question and Calling Attention Committee-42 sittings; Zila Parishad and Zila Panchayati Raj Committee-99 sittings; Internal Resources and Central Assistance Committee-9 sittings

(c) Committee on Unauthorised Construction-4 sittings; Select Commttee on "The Delhi Prohibition of Smoking & Non-Smokers Health Protection Bill, 1995-3 sittings and 1 report

(d) Committee on Panchayati Raj-10 sittings; Committee on Welfare of Scheduled Tribes-2 sittings; Committee on Welfare of Socially & Educationally Backward Classes-3 sittings; Committee on Papers Laid on the Table of the House-2 sittings

(e) Health Committee-6 sittings; Revenue Committee-6 sittings; Tourism Committee-6 sittings; Agriculture & Horticulture Committee-6 sitings; Education Committee-3 sittings; Committee on Papers Laid-3 sittings; General Administration Committee-6 sittings; Forest Committee-6 sittings and 3 reports

(f) Committee on the Welfare of Women and Children-10 sittings; Committee on Environment-9 sittings; Committee on the Welfare of Backward Class Communties-9 sittings; Committee on Papers Laid-7 sittings; Subject Committee-I-1 sitting; Subject Committee VII-1 sitting; Subject Committee VIII-3 sittings; Subject Committee X-1 sitting

(g) Committee Examining the paper laid on the Table-2 sittings and 1 report; Questions and Reference Committee-1 sitting; Women & Children Welfare Committee-3 sittings and 1 report

(h) Commitee on Papers laid on the Table-11 sittings and 2 reports; Women's Welfare Committee-5 sittings & 1 report; Environment Committee-1 sitting; Subject Committee on Panchayati Raj-1 sitting; House Committee on Medical Colleges-4 sittings and 1 report

(i) Committee on Paper laid/to be laid on the Table-9 sittings

(j) Women and Child Welfare Committee-16 sittings; Question and Reference Committee-24 sittings

(k) Committee on Paper Laid on the Table of the House-13 sittings and 18 reports

(l) Financial and Administrative Delays-3 sittings; Question and Reference Committee-9 sittings; Committee on Compilation of Ruling 1 sitting; Parliamentary Studies Committee-6 sittings; Parliamentary & Social Goodwill Committee-1 sitting; Vidhan Mandal Sadasyon Ke Awasiye Pariwad Sambhandhi Janch Samiti-1 sitting; Prashan Ke Kram Nirdharan Aur Prakriya Niyaman Samiti-1 sitting; Vidhayi Samadhikar Samiti-1 sitting; Noida Chetra ke Vidhyut Vitran Vaivastha Se Pradesh Ki Apurtiast Vayast Hone Tatha Bijli Ki Daren Badhae Jane Sambandhi Samiti-1 sitting; Uttar Pradesh Vidhan Parishad Ki Ayurvedic Nidheshalay Mein Dawai Ke Nam Par Hue Karoroan Rupye Ke Ghotale Ki Janesh Sambandhi Samiti-1 sitting

APPENDIX IV

LIST OF BILLS PASSED BY THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT AND ASSENTED TO BY THE PRESIDENT DURING THE PERIOD 1 OCTOBER TO 31 DECEMBER 1995

Sl. No.	Title of the Bill	Date of assent by the President
1	2	3
1.	The Wakf Bill, 1995	22.11.1995
2.	The Technology Development Board Bill, 1995	16.12.1995
3.	The Research and Development Cess (Amendment) Bill, 1995	16.12.1995

APPENDIX V

LIST OF BILLS PASSED BY THE LEGISLATURES OF STATES AND UNION TERRITORIES DURING THE PERIOD 1 OCTOBER TO 31 DECEMBER 1995

ANDHRA PRADESH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The A.P. Ground Water (Regulation for Drinking Water purposes) Bill, 1995
2. The A.P. Municipal Laws (Third Amendment) Bill, 1995
3. The A.P. Sports Authorities (Amendment) Bill, 1995
4. The A.P. Housing Board (Amendment) Bill, 1995
5. The A.P. Panchayat Raj (Second Amendment) Bill, 1995
6. The A.P. Public Sector Undertakings (Reconstitution of Management) Bill, 1995
7. The A.P. Public Societies (Reconstitution of Management) Bill, 1995

BIHAR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Bihar Panchayati Raj (Second Amendment) Bill, 1995
2. The Santhal Pragana Tenancy (Amendment) Bill, 1995
3. The Chhotanagpur Tenancy (Amendment) Bill, 1995
4. The Reservation in vacancies for the posts and Services of Schedule Caste/Schedule Tribe and Backward Classes (Second Amendment) Bill, 1995
5. The Bihar State Aid to Law to Weaker Section (Amendment) Bill, 1995
6. The Bihar Land Reforms (Fixation of Ceiling Area and Acquisition of Surplus Land) (Amendment) Bill, 1995
7. The Bengal, Agra and Assam Civil Courts (Bihar Amendment) Bill, 1995
8. The Bihar Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 1995
9. The Court Fees (Bihar Amendment) Bill, 1995
10. The Bihar Government Premises (Rent, Recovery & Eviction) (Amendment) Bill, 1995

DELHI VIDHAN SABHA

1. The Speaker & Deputy Speaker of Legislative Assembly of N.C.T. (Salaries, Allowances) (Amendment) Bill, 1995
2. The Ministers of the Government of N.C.T. of Delhi (Salaries, Allowances, etc.) (Amendment) Bill, 1995
3. The Members of Legislative Assembly of N.C.T. of Delhi (Salary, Allowances, Pensions, etc.) (Amendment) Bill, 1995

GOA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Goa Supplementary Appropriation Bill, 1995
*2. The Goa Animal Preservation Bill, 1995

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* Awaiting assent

*3. The Goa Compulsory Elementary Education Bill, 1995
*4. The Goa Mundkars (Protection from Eviction) (Amendment) Bill, 1995
*5. The Legislative Diploma No. 1984 dated 14.4.1960 (Fourth Amendment) Bill, 1995
6. The Goa Legislative Diploma No. 2070 dated 15.4.1961 (Amendment) Bill, 1995

MADHYA PRADESH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. Madhya Pradesh Panchayat Raj (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak 1995
*2. Madhya Pradesh Manoranjan Shulk tatha Vigyapan kar (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak 1995
3. Madhya Pradesh Viniyoga (No.5) Vidheyak, 1995
4. Madhya Pradesh Vidhan Sabha Sachivalaya Seva (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 1995
*5. Madhya Pradesh Viniyoga (No.6) Vidheyak 1995

MEGHALAYA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Meghalaya Legislators' Salaries and Allowances Amendment (No.11) Bill, 1995
*2. The Legislative Assembly of Meghalaya (Members' Pension) Amendment Bill, 1995, 1995

NAGALAND LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Nagaland Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 1995
2. The Nagaland Appropriation (No.4) Bill, 1995

ORISSA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Orissa Grama Panchayats (Amendment) Bill, 1995
2. The Orissa Panchayat Samiti (Amendment) Bill, 1995
3. The Orissa Zilla Parishad (Amendment) Bill, 1995
4. The Orissa Municipal (Amendment) Bill, 1995
*5. The Orissa Electricity Reform Bill, 1995
6. The Orissa Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 1995
*7. The Orissa Sales Tax (Second Amendment) Bill, 1995
*8. The Orissa Homeopathic Medical Service (Appointment of Lecturers Validation) Bill, 1995
*9. The Talcher Thermal Power Station (Acquisition and Transfer) (Amendment) Bill, 1995

RAJASTHAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

*1. The Rajasthan Colonisation (Amendment) Bill, 1995
*2. The Rajasthan Appropriation (No.4) Bill, 1995
*3. The Rajasthan Land Revenue (Second Amendment) Bill, 1995
*4. The Rajasthan Universities Teachers and Officers (Selection for Appointment) (Amendment) Bill, 1995

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* **Awaiting assent**

*5. The Indian Partnership (Rajasthan Amendment) Bill
*6. The Rajasthan Co-operative Societies (Amendment) Bill, 1995
*7. The Rajasthan Minister's Salaries (Amendment) Bill, 1995

TAMIL NADU LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Tamil Nadu Municipal Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1995
*2. The Tamil Nadu Payment of Salaries (Third Amendment) Bill,1995
*3. The Madras City Police (Second Amendment) Bill, 1995
*4. The Tamil Nadu District Police (Amendment) Bill, 1995
*5. The Tamil Nadu Legislature (Prevention of Disqualification) (Second Amendment) Bill, 1995
*6. The Tamil Nadu Entertainment Tax (Second Amendment) Bill, 1995
7. The Tamil Nadu Cooperative Societies (Appointment of Special Officers) Second Amendment Bill, 1995
*8. The Tamil Nadu Advocate Welfare Fund (Amendment) Bill, 1995
9. The Tamil Nadu Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation) Second Amendment Bill, 1995
*10. The Tamil Nadu General Sales Tax (Fifth Amendment) Bill, 1995
11. The Tamil Nadu Panchayats (Amendment) Bill, 1995
*12. The Tamil Nadu Maritime Board Bill, 1995
*13. The Tamil Nadu General Sales Tax (Sixth Amendment) Bill, 1995
*14. The Tamil Nadu Labour Welfare Fund (Amendment) Bill, 1995
*15. The Tamil Nadu Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Amendment) Bill, 1995
16. The Tamil Nadu Panchayats (Second Amendment) Bill, 1995
*17. The Tamil Nadu Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 1995

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* Awaiting assent

APPENDIX VI

ORDINANCES PROMULGATED BY THE UNION AND STATE GOVERNMENTS DURING THE PERIOD 1 OCTOBER TO 31 DECEMBER 1995

Sl. No.	Title of Ordinance	Date of promulgation	Date(s) on which laid before the House	Date of Cessation	Remarks
		UNION GOVERNMENT			
1.	The Industrial Disputes (Amendment) Ordinance, 1995	11.10.1995	28.11.95	8.1.1996	—
2.	The Employee's Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions (Amendment) Ordinance, 1995	17.10.95	-do-	-do-	-do-
3.	The Building and other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Oridnance, 1995	3.11.95	-do-	-do-	-do-
4.	The Building and other Construction Workers' Welfare Cess Ordinance, 1995	3.11.95	-do-	-do-	-do-
		STATE GOVERNMENTS			
		ANDHRA PRADESH			
1.	The A.P. Municipal Laws (Third Amendment) Ordinance, 1995	27.9.95	4.12.95	—	—
2.	The A.P. Panchayat Raj (Second Amendment) Ordinance, 1995	22.10.95	-do-	—	—

Sl. No.	Subject	Date of promulgation	Date on which laid before the House	Date of cessation	Remarks
3.	The A.P. Housing Board (Amendment) Ordinance, 1995	13.11.95	-do-	—	—
4.	The A.P. Urban Areas (Development) (Amendment) Ordinance, 1995	13.11.95	4.12.95	—	—
5.	The A.P. Public Societies (Reconstitution of Management) Ordinance 1995	13.11.95	-do-	—	—
6.	The A.P. Public Sector Undertakings (Reconstitution of Mangement) Ordinanc, 1995	13.11.95	-do-	—	—
7.	The A.P. Municipalities (Amendment) Ordinance, 1995	14.11.95	-do-	—	—
8.	The A.P. Sports Authorities (Amendment) Ordinance, 1995	16.11.95	-do-	—	—
		BIHAR			
1.	The Bihar Panchayati Raj (Second Amendment) Ordinance, 1995	—	15.10.95	—	—
2.	The Santhal Pargana Tenancy (Supplementary Provision) Amendment Odinance, 1995	—	15.10.95	—	—
3.	The Chhotanagpur Tenancy Amendment Ordinance, 1995	1.11.95	—	—	—
4.	The Reservation in Vacancies for the posts and services of Schedule Caste Schedule Tribe and Backward Classes (Third Amendment) Ordinance, 1995	—	9.11.95	—	—

Sl. No.	Subject	Date of promulgation	Date on which laid before the House	Date of cessation	Remarks
5.	The Reservation in Vacancies for the post and service of Schedule Caste, Schedule Tribe and Backward Clases (Second Amendment) (Second) Ordinance, 1995	—	9.11.95	—	—
6.	The Bihar State Aid to Law to weaker Section (Amendment) Second Ordinance, 1995	—	9.11.95	—	—
7.	The Bihar Land Reforms (Fixation of Ceiling Area and Acquisition of Surplus Land (Amendment) Second Ordinance, 1995	—	9.11.95	—	—
		GUJARAT			
1.	The Bombay Court Fees (Gujarat Amendment) Amending Ordinance, 1995	28.8.95	7.10.95	17.11.95	—
2.	The Gujarat Maritime Board (Amendment) Ordinance, 1995	8.9.95	-do-	-do-	—
3.	The Gujarat Legislative Assembly Members (Removal of Disqualifications) (Amendment) Ordinance, 1995	9.9.95	-do-	-do-	—
4.	The Bombay Court Fees (Gujarat Amendment) Amending (Second) Ordinance, 1995	16.11.95	—	—	—
5.	The Gujarat Maritime Board (Amendment) (Second) Ordinance, 1995	-do-	-do-	—	—
6.	The Gujarat Legislative Assembly Members (Removal of Disqualifications) (Amendment) (Second) Ordinance, 1995	-do-	—	—	—

Sl. No.	Subject	Date of promulgation	Date on which laid before the House	Date of cessation	Remarks
		HIMACHAL PRADESH			
1.	The Himachal Pradesh General Sales Tax (Amendment) Ordinance, 1995	13.11.95	10.1.95	—	Replaced by Legislation
2.	The Himachal Pradesh Housing Board (Amendment) Ordinance, 1995	8.11.95	10.1.96	—	-do-
		KERALA			
1.	The Kerala Public Service Commission (Additional Functions as respects certain socities) Ordinance, 1995	27.10.95	—	—	—
2.	The Malabar University Ordinance, 1995	10.11.95	—	—	—
		ORISSA			
1.	The Orissa Grama Panchayat (Amendment) Ordinance, 1995	26.9.95	15.11.95	—	Replaced by Legislation
2.	The Orissa Panchayat Samiti (Amendment) Ordinance, 1995	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-
3.	The Orissa Zilla Parishad (Amendment) Ordinance, 1995	-do-	-do-	—	-do-
4.	The Orissa (Municipal Amendment) Ordinance, 1995	17.10.95	-do-	—	-do-
		PUNJAB			
1.	The Punjab Health Systems Coroproation Ordinance, 1995	20.10.95	—	—	—

Sl. No.	Subject	Date of promulgation	Date on which laid before the House	Date of cessation	Remarks
		RAJASTHAN			
1.	The Rajasthan Universities and Officers (Selection for Appointment) Ordinance, 1995	7.7.95	26.10.95	30.10.95	Replaced by Legislation
2.	The Rajasthan Cooperative Societies (Amendment) Ordinanc,e 1995	3.7.95	26.10.95	3.11.95	-do-
		TAMIL NADU			
1.	The Tamil Nadu Panchayats (Second Amendment) Ordinance, 1995	6.8.95	2.11.95	—	—
2.	The Tamil Nadu Panchayats (Third Amendment) Ordinance, 1995	-do-	—	—	—
		UTTAR PRADESH			
1.	The U.P. Tax on Luxuries (Repeal) Ordinance, 1995	4.10.95	—	—	—

APPENDIX VII

A. PARTY POSITION IN LOK SABHA

(As on 20.2.1996)

Sl. No.	State/ Union Territory	Seats	Cong. (I)	BJP	CPI(M)	JD	CPI	SAMATA PARTY	AIADMK	JD(A)	TDP	OTHERS	IND./ Nominated	Total	Vacancies
(I) STATES															
1.	Andhra Pradesh	42	29	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	7	1 (a)	—	40	2
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
3.	Assam	14	8	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2 (b)	1	14	—
4.	Bihar	54	2	5	1	16	7	9	—	4	—	6 (c)	2	52	2
5.	Goa	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
6.	Gujarat	26	6	19	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	25	1
7.	Haryana	10	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	1
8.	Himachal Pradesh	4	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
10.	Karnataka	28	21	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	25	3
11.	Kerala	20	12	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	4 (d)	—	20	—
12.	Madhya Pradesh	40	26	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 (e)	—	39	1
13.	Maharashtra	48	38	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2 (f)	—	46	2
14.	Manipur	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 (g)	—	2	—
15.	Meghalaya	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
16.	Mizoram	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
17.	Nagaland	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
18.	Orissa	21	13	—	1	2	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	19	2
19.	Punjab	13	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 (h)	—	13	—

20.	Rajasthan	25	13	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	25	—
21.	Sikkim	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 (i)	—	1	—
22.	Tamil Nadu	39	26	—	—	—	—	—	12	—	—	—	—	38	1
23.	Tripura	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
24.	Uttar Pradesh	85	13	50	—	3	1	4	—	4	—	5 (j)	—	80	5
25.	West Bengal	42	5	—	27	—	3	—	—	—	—	7 (k)	—	42	—
UNION TERRITORIES															
26.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
27.	Chandigarh	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
28.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
29.	Daman and Diu	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
30.	Delhi	7	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	2
31.	Lakshadweep	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
32.	Pondicherry	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
33.	Nominated	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
	TOTAL	545	254@	115	36	21	13	14	12	09*	07	31	05	517	28

*Includes 6 members sitting separately consequent on receipt of intimation from them

@Including H.S.

a) All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen-1

b) Autonomous State Demand Committee-1; Asom Gana Parishad-I

c) Jharkhand Mukti Morcha-6

d) Indian Congress (Socialist)-1 ; Muslim League-2 ; Kerala Cong. (M)-1

e) Bahujan Samaj Party-1

f) Shiv Sena - 2
g) Manipur People's Party - 1
h) Bahujan Samaj Party - 1
i) Sikkim Sangram Parishad - 1
j) Janata Party - 1 ; Samajwadi Party - 3 ; Bahujan Samaj Party - 1
k) All India Forward Bloc - 3 ; Revolutionary Socialist Party - 4

B. PARTY POSITION IN RAJYA SABHA

(AS ON 1 JANUARY 1996)

Sl.No.	State/Union Territories	Seats	Cong. (I)	Janata Dal	CPI (M)	BJP	Janata Dal (S)	Others	Unatt-ached	Total	Vacancies
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	STATES										
1.	Andhra Pradesh	18	10	1	—	—	—	5(a)	1	17	1
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
3.	Assam	7	4	—	—	—	—	2(b)	1	7	—
4.	Bihar	22	5	9	—	3	1	3 (c)	—	21	1
5.	Goa	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
6.	Gujarat	11	4	1	—	5	—	—	1	11	—
7.	Haryana	5	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	4	1
8.	Himachal Pradesh	3	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	3	—
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
10.	Karnataka	12	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	—
11.	Kerala	9	3	—	3	—	—	3 (d)	—	9	—
12.	Madhya Pradesh	16	6	—	—	10	—	—	—	16	—
13.	Maharashtra	19	13	1	—	3	—	1 (e)	1	19	—
14.	Manipur	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
15.	Meghalaya	1	—	—	—	—	—	1 (f)	—	1	—
16.	Mizoram	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
17.	Nagaland	1	—	—	—	—	—	1 (g)	—	1	—
18.	Orissa	10	—	9	—	—	—	1 (h)	—	10	—
19.	Punjab	7	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
20.	Rajasthan	10	3	1	—	5	—	—	1	10	—
21.	Sikkim	1	—	—	—	—	—	1 (i)	—	1	—
22.	Tamil Nadu	18	2	—	—	—	—	15 (j)	1	18	—
23.	Tripura	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
24.	Uttar Pradesh	34	5	4	—	13	3	7 (k)	2	34	—
25.	West Bengal	16	1	—	10	—	—	5(l)	—	16	—
	UNION TERRITORIES										
	Delhi	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	3	—
	Pondicherry	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
	Nominated	12	4	—	—	—	—	—	4	8	4
	TOTAL	245	87	27	13	45	5	45	12	234	11

(a) Telugu Desam I- 3; C.P.I. - 1; Telugu Desam II- 1

(b) Asom Gana Parishad - 2

(c) C.P.I. - 3

(d) M.L. - 2; Kerala Congress (M)-1

(e) Shiv Sena - 1

(f) H.S.P.D.P. - 1

(g) Nagaland People's Council - 1

(h) Rashtriya Janata Dal -1

(i) Sikkim Sangram Parishad -1

(j) AIADMK - 11; D.M.K. - 4

(k) Samajwadi Party - 5; Bahujan Samaj Party -1; Rashtriya Janata Dal -1

(l) R.S.P. - 1; CPI - 1 ; F.B. - 2; Rashtriya Janata Dal -1

C. PARTY POSITION IN STATE LEGISLATURES

(as on 1.1.96)

State/Union territory	Seats	Cong. (I)	Janata Dal	Lok Dal	BJP	CPI (M)	CPI	Other Parties	Ind.	Total	Vacancies
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Andhra Pradesh L.A.	295	26	—	—	3	15	19	223 [a]	5	291	4
Arunachal Pradesh L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Assam L.A.	126	66	1	—	10	2	4	28 [b]	15	126	—
Bihar L.A.	325	29	170	—	41	6	26	35 [c]	12	322	3
Bihar L.C.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Delhi L.A.	70	12	4	—	49	—	—	2 [d]	3	70	—
Goa L.A.	40	22	—	—	4	—	—	11 [e]	3	40	—
Gujarat L.A.	182	45	—	—	121	—	—	—	—	182	—
Haryana L.A.	90	53	—	—	1	—	—	13 [f]	5	76 [g]	16
Himachal Pradesh L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jammu & Kashmir L.A.@	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jammu & Kashmir L.C.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Karnataka L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Karnataka L.C.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kerala L.A.	141	54	2	—	—	25	12	38 [h]	05	136 [i]	4
Madhya Pradesh L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maharashtra L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maharashtra L.C.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Manipur L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meghalaya L.A.	60	—	—	—	—	—	—	55 [j]	3	59	1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Mizoram L.A.	—·	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nagaland L.A.	60	43	—	—	—	—	—	10[d]	8	60	—
Orissa L.A.	147	78	46	—	9	—	1	5[d]	6	145	2
Punjab L.A.	117	87	1	—	4	1	4	13[e]	5	115	2
Rajasthan L.A.	200	76	3	—	99	1	—	—	21	200	—
Sikkim L.A.	—·	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tamil Nadu L.A.	235	61	—	—	—	1	1	167[f]	1	233*	3
Tripura L.A.*	—·	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uttar Pradesh L.A.*	—·	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uttar Pradesh L.C.	—·	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
West Bengal L.A.	—·	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
UNION TERRITORIES											
Pondicherry L.A.**	—·	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

* Excluding Speaker

** Information not received from State Legislature

●Dissolved since 19.2.90

(a) Telugu Desam Party-213; Majlis Batchao Tahreek-2; A.I.M.I.M.-1; Democratic Peoples Front-7

(b) Asom Gana Parishad-24; Autonomous State Demand Committee-4

(c) Communist Party of India (Male)-6; Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (Soren)-16; Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (Marandi)-2; Samta Party-4; Bahujan Samaj Party-2; Jharkhand Peoples Party-2; Jharkhand Party (Horo)-1; Champaran Vikas Party-1; Nomintaed-1

(d) Unattached-2

(e) Maharashtrawadi Gomantak Party-8; United Goan's Democratic Party-3

(f) Janata Party-1; Haryana Vikas Party-7; Bahujan Samaj Party-1; Unattached-4

(g) Muslim League-17; Kerala Congress (M)-6; Kerala Congress (Jacob)-4; Indian Congress (Socialist)-3; Revolutionary Socialist Party-2; National Democratic Party-2; Kerala Congress (B)-2; Kerala Congress-1; C.M.P.-1

(h) United Meghalaya Parliamentary Front-40; Opposition Group-15

(i) N.P.C.-10

(j) J.M.M.-4; J.P.P.-1

(k) Bahujan Samaj Party-9; Shiromani Akali Dal-4

(l) All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhgam-160; Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam-1; M.G.R. Anna Drivada Munnetra Kazhagam-1; Unattached-4; Nominated-1